

RED ROSE



**ENGLISH THROUGH
LITERATURE**

ENGLISH THROUGH

Short

LITERATURE

Intermediate to Advanced.

Selected Based on

IELTS/GRE/TOEFL Exams

RED ROSE

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PREFACE

However English language is a global language in 21st century at the beginning of its second decade, it is not a combed language. According to Norton anthology of English literature this language is a mixture of old German, Latin, Greek and more French.

There are bunch of resources for learning this subject. This book is an effort to make English language learning more amusing. We go through contemporary and up-to-date classical English literature samples and expand our language skill by it. Almost all of English language learning books are serious, boring and tedious! Just in collections and lists of repeated patterns of exercises. I tried to make it sweet and cute!

Vocabulary building

Before start the most important tool which ease our difficulties is the knowledge of vocabulary building in English language. This is the knowledge of analyzing words with **roots** and **affixes**. can we determine the meaning of a word using its roots and/or affixes? The answer is YES.

Adding affixes to base or root to form new words is common in academic English. Prefixes are added to the front of the base (*like* → *dislike*), whereas suffixes are added to the end of the base (*active* → *activate*).

The most common prefixes used to form new verbs are: *re-*, *dis-*, *over-*, *un-*, *mis-*, *out-*.

The most common suffixes are: *-ise*, *-en*, *-ate*, *-(i)fy*.

Verbs

prefix + verb → verb

Prefix	Meaning	Examples
<i>re-</i>	again or back	restructure, revisit, reappear, rebuild, refinance
<i>dis-</i>	reverses the meaning of the verb	disappear, disallow, disarm, disconnect, discontinue
<i>over-</i>	too much	overbook, oversleep, overwork
<i>un-</i>	reverses the meaning of the verb	unbend, uncouple, unfasten
<i>mis-</i>	badly or wrongly	mislead, misinform, misidentify

<i>out-</i>	more or better than others	outperform, outbid
<i>be-</i>	make or cause	befriend, belittle
<i>co-</i>	together	co-exist, co-operate, co-own
<i>de-</i>	do the opposite of	devalue, deselect
<i>fore-</i>	earlier, before	foreclose, foresee
<i>inter-</i>	between	interact, intermix, interface
<i>pre-</i>	before	pre-expose, prejudice, pretest
<i>sub-</i>	under/below	subcontract, subdivide

<i>trans-</i>	across, over	transform, transcribe, transplant
<i>under-</i>	not enough	underfund, undersell, undervalue,

Suffix used to form verbs with the meaning "cause to be".

Suffix	Example
<i>-ise/ize</i>	stabilize, characterise, symbolise, visualize, specialise
<i>-ate</i>	differentiate, liquidate, pollinate, duplicate, fabricate
<i>-fy</i>	classify, exemplify, simplify, justify
<i>-en</i>	awaken, fasten, shorten, moisten

Nouns

The most common prefixes used to form new nouns are: co- and sub-. The most common suffixes are: -tion, -ity, -er, -ness, -ism, -ment, -ant, -ship, -age, -ery.

prefix + noun → noun

Prefix	Meaning	Examples
<i>anti-</i>	against	anticlimax, antidote, antithesis
<i>auto-</i>	self	autobiography, automobile
<i>bi-</i>	two	bilingualism, biculturalism, bi-mentalism
<i>co-</i>	joint	co-founder, co-owner, co-descendant
<i>counter-</i>	against	counter-argument, counter-example, counter-proposal

<i>dis-</i>	the converse of	discomfort, dislike
<i>ex-</i>	former	ex-chairman, ex-hunter
<i>hyper-</i>	extreme	hyperinflation, hypersurface
<i>in-</i>	the converse of	inattention, incoherence, incompatibility
<i>in-</i>	inside	inpatient,
<i>inter-</i>	between	interaction, interchange, interference
<i>kilo-</i>	thousand	Kilobyte, Kilometer
<i>mal-</i>	bad	malfunction, maltreatment, malnutrition
<i>mega-</i>	million	megabyte

<i>mis-</i>	wrong	misconduct, misdeed, mismanagement
<i>mini-</i>	small	mini-publication, mini-theory
<i>mono-</i>	one	monosyllable, monograph, monogamy
<i>neo-</i>	new	neo-colonialism, neo-impressionism
<i>out-</i>	separate	outbuilding,
<i>poly-</i>	many	polysyllable
<i>pseud o-</i>	false	pseudo-expert
<i>re-</i>	again	re-organization, re- assessment, re-examination
<i>semi-</i>	half	semicircle, semi-darkness semiconductors
<i>sub-</i>	below	subset, subdivision

<i>super-</i>	more than, above	superset, superimposition, superpowers
<i>sur-</i>	over and above	surtax
<i>tele-</i>	distant	telecommunication
<i>tri-</i>	three	Triple, triglyceride
<i>ultra-</i>	beyond	ultrasound
<i>under-</i>	below, too little	underpayment, under-development, undergraduate
<i>vice-</i>	deputy	vice-president

Suffix added to a verb (V), noun (N) or adjective (A) → noun

Suffix	Meaning	Examples
-tion -sion	action/instance	alteration, demonstration

		expansion, inclusion, admission
<i>-er</i>	person who do something	advertiser, driver computer, silencer
<i>-ment</i>	action/instance	development, punishment, unemployment
<i>-ant</i> <i>-ent</i>	person who do something	assistant, consultant student
<i>-age</i>	Action / result	breakage, wastage, package
<i>-al</i>	action/result	denial, proposal, refusal, dismissal
<i>-ence</i> <i>-ance</i>	action/result	preference, dependence,

		interference attendance, acceptance, endurance
<i>-ery/-ry</i>	action/instance / place	bribery, robbery, misery refinery, bakery

Suffix	Meaning	Examples
<i>-er</i>	person concerned with	astronomer, geographer
<i>-ism</i>	doctrine of	Marxism, Maoism, Thatcherism
<i>-ship</i>	state of being	friendship, citizenship, leadership
<i>-age</i>	collection of	baggage, plumage

Suffix	Meaning	Examples
<i>-ity</i>	state or quality of being	ability, similarity, responsibility, curiosity
<i>-ness</i>	state or quality of being	darkness, preparedness, consciousness
<i>-cy</i>	state or quality of being	urgency, efficiency, frequency

Adjectives

Many adjectives are formed from a base of a different class with a suffix (e.g. -less, -ous). Adjectives can also be formed from other adjectives, especially by the negative prefixes (un-, in- and non-). The most common suffixes are -al, -ent, -ive, -ous, -ful, -less.

Suffix added to verbs or
nouns → adjective

Suffix	Example
<i>-al</i>	central, political, national, optional, professional
<i>-ent</i>	different, dependent, excellent
<i>-ive</i>	attractive, effective, imaginative, repetitive
<i>-ous</i>	continuous, dangerous, famous
<i>-ful</i>	beautiful, peaceful, careful
<i>-less</i>	endless, homeless, careless, thoughtless
<i>-able</i>	drinkable, countable, avoidable,

negative + adjective → adjective

Prefix	Examples
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<i>un-</i>	unfortunate, uncomfortable, unjust
<i>im-/in-/ir- /il-</i>	immature, impatient, improbable, inconvenient, irreplaceable, illegal
<i>non-</i>	non-fiction, non-political, non-neutral
<i>dis-</i>	disloyal, dissimilar, dishonest

Mixed: base with both prefix and suffix

Adjectives: uncomfortable, unavoidable,
unimaginative, inactive, semi-circular

Nouns: disappointment, misinformation,
reformulation

DRAMAS



Greek theater of Epidauros on the Peloponnesus east of Nauplia.

WHILE THE AUTO WAITS

by O. Henry

CHARACTERS:

GIRL

YOUNG MAN

WAITRESS

CHAUFFEUR

Twilight. The quiet corner of a city park. A GIRL in gray sits alone on a bench, reading her book. A large-meshed veil hangs over her face, which nevertheless shines through with a calm and **unconscious** beauty. When she turns a page, the book slips from her hand, and a YOUNG MAN, who has been **hovering** (waiting, staying) nearby, pounces (jumps, leap) upon it. He returns it to her with a **gallant** and hopeful air (look, appearance).

Unconscious: Latin; un + conscire + ous: not aware of, not able to use your senses, not alert to, oblivious to, not conscious, not mindful, not deliberate, intentional, premeditated, wilful and controlled,: They

found him lying **unconscious** on the floor. **unconscious** desires. The brochure is full of **unconscious** humor. She is **unconscious** (oblivious to) of the effect she has on people. He was quite **unconscious** (oblivious to) of the danger. **Unconscious:** Comatose, Insentient, Insensible, Cataleptic, Lifeless, Out cold, Down for the count, Knocked out. He hovered on the edge of **consciousness**.

Gallant: She made a gallant (brave, heroic) attempt to hide her tears. He bowed and gallantly (politely) kissed her hand.

GIRL: Oh, thank you.

YOUNG MAN: Nice weather we're having.

GIRL: Yes.

YOUNG MAN: Well...

GIRL: You may sit down, if you like.

YOUNG MAN: [Eagerly.] Are you sure? I don't want to interrupt your reading.

GIRL: Really, sit. I would like very much to have you do so. The light is too bad for reading. I would prefer to talk.

YOUNG MAN: Well, if you insist (to demand, to say firmly). [He slides hopefully onto the seat next to her.] You know, you've got to be the most **stunning** girl I've ever seen. Honest. I had my eye on you since yesterday.

Stunning: spectacular, striking, fabulous splendid, superb, magnificent, gorgeous exquisite, wonderful, glorious, brilliant outstanding, superlative.

GIRL: Whoever you are, you must remember that I am a lady. I will excuse the **remark** you have just made because the mistake was, doubtless, not an unnatural one—in your circle. I asked you to sit down; if the invitation must constitute (is a part of) me, consider it **withdrawn**.

Remark: comment, statement, observation, aside, mention, quip, say, state.

Withdrawn: to say that you no longer believe that sth you previously said is true: retract, deny, pull back/in, draw back/in. The newspaper withdrew the **allegations** (claims, charges, accusations, assertions) the next day.

YOUNG MAN: Sorry. I'm sorry. I didn't mean to offend (insult, rub the wrong way) you. I just thought ... well, I mean, there are girls in parks, you know...that is, of course, you don't know, but...

GIRL: Abandon (leave) the subject, if you please. Of course I know.

YOUNG MAN: Right.

GIRL: Now, tell me about these people passing and crowding, each way, along these paths. Where are they going? Why do they hurry so? Are they happy?

YOUNG MAN: It is interesting to watch them, isn't it? The wonderful drama of life. Some are going to supper and some to other places. One can't help but wonder what their histories are.

GIRL: Yes! How fascinating they seem to me—rushing about with their petty (unimportant, trivial, minor) little dreams and their common worries! I come here to sit because here, only, can I be near the great, common, throbbing (beating, pulsating) heart of humanity. My part in life is cast where its beating is never felt. Can you **surmise** (guess, assume) why I spoke to you, Mr?

YOUNG MAN: Parkenstacker. And your name?...

[He waits, eager and hopeful, but she only holds up a slender (thin, slim) finger and smiles **slightly**.] (somewhat, to some extent, a little, a touch, a tad, inconsiderably, marginally, faintly)

GIRL: No, you would recognize it immediately. It is simply impossible to keep one's name out of the papers. Or even one's portrait. This veil and this hat—my maid's, of course—are my only protection. They furnish me with an **incognito**. You should have seen the chauffeur (driver) staring when he

thought I did not see. **Candidly** , there are five or six names that belong in the holy of holies, and mine, by the accident of birth, is one of them. I spoke to you, Mr. Stackenpot..

Incognito: under another name, pretending to be somebody else, disguised, undercover, in disguise, anonymously, secretly.

Candidly: Honestly, Frankly, Openly, Truthfully, Bluntly, Outspokenly, Straightforwardly, Unequivocally.

YOUNG MAN: Parkenstacker.

GIRL: —Mr. Parkenstacker, because I wanted to talk, for once, with a natural man—a real man—one unspoiled by the **despicable** gloss (shine) of wealth and supposed social superiority. Oh! You have no idea how **weary** I am of it—money, money, money! And of the men who surround me, dancing like little marionettes (doll, puppet) all cut from the same pattern. I am sick of pleasure, of jewels, of travel, of society, of luxuries of all kinds!

YOUNG MAN: I always had the idea that money must be a pretty good thing.

Despicable: very unpleasant; shameful, appalling, dreadful, contemptible, wicked, disgraceful, vile, loathsome.

Weary: tired, beat, exhausted, fatigued, drained, somnolent, drowsy, worn-out, bushed, sleepy

GIRL: A **competence** is to be desired, certainly. But when you have so many millions that—! [She concludes (finish) the sentence with a gesture of **despair**. It is the **monotony** of it that palls. Drives, dinners, theatres, balls, suppers, balls, dinners, more balls, followed of course by dinners and suppers, with the **gilding** of **superfluous** wealth over it all. Sometimes the very **tinkle** of the ice in my glass nearly drives me mad.

Competence: ability, skill, power to do something: to gain a high level of **competence** in English need a regular plan. The judge has to act within the **competence** of the court. The syllabus lists the

knowledge and **competences** required at this level.

Despair: great sadness and hopelessness: Misery, Desolation, Anguish, Gloom, Depression, Despondency, Dejection.

Monotony. No excitement, dull and boring: tedium, dullness, wearisomeness, boredom, flatness, dreariness, deadliness.

Gilding: decoration, beautification, prettification, embellishment, ornamentation, trimming, titivation, frill.

Superfluous: more than you need or want; unnecessary: She gave him a look that made words **superfluous:** extra, surplus, redundant, unnecessary, unessential, excessive, unneeded, needless.

Tinkle: light high ringing sound. the **tinkle** of glass breaking. Jingle, Jingling, Ring, Ringing, Tinkling, Clink, Clinking, Clank, Clanking.

YOUNG MAN: You know ... I've always liked to read up on the habits and customs of the wealthy class. I consider myself a bit of a **connoisseur** on the

subject. But I like to have my information accurate. Now, I had formed the opinion that drinking is cooled in the bottle and not by placing ice in the glass.

connoisseur /,kɑ:nə'sɜ:r/: an expert on matters involving the judgment of beauty, quality or skill in art, food or music. a **connoisseur** of Italian painting.

[The GIRL gives a musical laugh of genuine amusement]

GIRL: You must understand that we of the non-useful class depend for our amusement (fun and pleasure) upon departure (leaving, retreat) from **precedent**. Just now it is a fashion to put ice in drinking. The idea was originated by a visiting Prince of Tartary while dining at the Waldorf. It will soon give way to some other **whim**. Just as, at a dinner party this week on Madison Avenue, a green kid glove was laid by the plate of each guest to be put on and used while eating olives.

YOUNG MAN: [**Humbly**.] I see.

Precedent: Example, Model, Pattern, Instance; **Precede:** to happen or come before something: She **preceded** me in the job. See the **preceding** chapter. It had happened during the **preceding** year. She had to learn that her wishes did not take **precedence** (priority,) over other people's needs.

Whim: a sudden and unusual wish, Impulse, Urge, Notion, Quirk, Caprice, Fad, Craze, Fancy: We bought the house on a **whim**. My duties seem to change daily at the **whim** of the boss. to have a **whimsical** sense of humor.

Humbly: Simply, Meekly, Modestly, Unassumingly and Deferentially (from deference: respect)

GIRL: These special **diversions** (changes) of the inner circle do not become familiar to the common public, of course.

YOUNG MAN: Of course. It's all quite fascinating. I've always wanted to participate in, or at least witness first hand, the **rituals** of the elite.

Ritual /'ritʃuəl/: regular and in the same way: religious rituals. a **ritualistic** act of worship/ significance. ritual chanting. ritual expressions of sympathy. **ritualized** expressions of grief The goat was ritually slaughtered.

GIRL: We are drawn (attracted) to that which we do not understand.

YOUNG MAN: I guess that's true.

GIRL: For my part, I have always thought that if I should ever love a man it would be one of **lowly** position. One who is a worker and not a **drone**. But, doubtless, the claims of class and wealth will prove stronger than my **inclination**. Just now I am **besieged** by two **suitors**. One is Grand Duke of a German **principality**. I think he has, or has had, a wife, somewhere, driven mad by his **intemperance** and cruelty. The other is an English Marquis (nobleman), so cold and **mercenary** that I prefer even the **diabolical** nature of the Duke. What is it that **impels** me to tell you these things, Mr. Packenwacker?

Lowly: low in status or importance humble, ordinary, modest, common, mean, **obscure:** a **lowly** government clerk. How should I know? I'm just a **lowly** employee.

Drone: the distant drone (a continuous low noise, buzz, hum) of traffic. The staff was a **drone** (lazy, not energetic, idle, indolent, lethargic, languid, sluggish, slothful) chubby (very fat) man. an aircraft without a pilot, controlled from the ground is called a **drone**.

Inclination: Latin; in: toward + clinare: to bend so; a tendency to do sth, a degree of sloping. He did not show the slightest **inclination** to leave. He was a loner by nature and by **inclination**. The mountain road had an **inclination** of 45°!

Besieged /bɪ'si:dʒ/: to surround, lay siege to, **beleaguered** /bɪ'li:gərd/. The actress was **besieged** by reporters at the airport. The radio station was **besieged** by invaders. They send some supplies (provisions, goods) for the **beleaguered** city. The **beleaguered** (experiencing a lot of criticism and difficulties) party leader was forced to resign.

Suitor: a man who wants to marry a particular woman: He was an ardent (eager, keen) **suitor**. a company that wants to buy another company: a merger (joining) proposal (suggestion) from an unwanted **suitor**.

Principality /ˌprɪnsɪˈpæləti/: a country that is ruled by a prince: the **principality** of Monaco.

Intemperance: immoderation, noun of adjective; intemperate: showing a lack of control over yourself; not temperate or moderate: he was arguing in an **intemperate** language.

mercenary /ˈmɜːrsənəri/ noun; a soldier who will fight for any country or group that offers payment: foreign **mercenaries** in Syria. **mercenary** soldiers in Afghanistan. Adjective; only interested in making or getting money: a **mercenary** society/ attitude. She's interested in him for purely **mercenary** reasons.

Diabolical /ˌdaɪəˈbɔːlɪkl/: adjective extremely bad or annoying; terrible, awful

dreadful, appalling, abysmal: The traffic was **diabolical**.

Impel: latin in:toward + pellere: to drive, make, compel, urge, **coerce**, oblige, induce, require. There are various reasons that **impel** me to that conclusion. The wearing of seat belts is **required** by law. They were **coerced** into negotiating a settlement.

YOUNG MAN: Parkenstacker.

GIRL: Of course.

YOUNG MAN: I don't know why you should **bare** (disclose, reveal, **divulge** /dar'vʌldʒ/, let slip) your soul to a common man like me, but you can't know how much I **appreciate** (admire) your **confidences** (self-assurances).

[The girl **contemplates** (to think, consider and look carefully) him with the calm, **impersonal regard** (care, look) that **befits** (suits) the difference in their positions.]

Impersonal: cold and unfriendly: Business letters need not be formal and **impersonal**.

a cold **impersonal** stare. His touch was as **impersonal** as that of a doctor.

GIRL: What is your aim, if you don't mind my asking?

YOUNG MAN: A very humble one. But I hope to rise in the world someday.

GIRL: You have **aspirations**?

Aspirations: a strong desire, goal, objective, end, aim, target to have or do something: He has never had any **aspiration** (ambition) to earn a lot of money.

YOUNG MAN: Oh, yes. There's so much I want to do.

GIRL: I **admire** your **enthusiasm**. I, myself, can find very little to be **enthused** about, **burdened**, as I am, by the constant (continuous) pleasures and diversions of my class.

Admire: Like, Respect, Esteem, Appreciate, Regard, Approve, Venerate.

Enthusiasm: eagerness, interest, fervor, passion, gusto, zeal, zest, keenness.

Burden: (to give) a duty, responsibility etc: to bear/ carry/ ease/ reduce/ share the **burden**. The main **burden** of caring for old people falls on the state. don't want to **burden** you with my worries. to be **burdened** by high taxation.

YOUNG MAN: Did you really mean it, before, when you said you could love a man of lowly position?

GIRL: Indeed I did. But I said “might”.

YOUNG MAN: Why only “might”?

GIRL: Well, there is the Grand Duke and the Marquis to think of, you know.

YOUNG MAN: But you've said yourself—they're so cold.

GIRL: I am sure you understand when I say there are certain expectations of a young lady in my position. It would be such a **disappointment** to certain members of my family if I were to marry a commoner as we like to call them. You simply cannot imagine the **scandal** it would cause. All the magazines would

remark upon it. I might even be **cut off** (deprive) from the family **fortune** (wealth). And yet ... no calling could be too humble were the man I loved all that I wish him to be.

Disappointment: a noun: dis: not + a pointer: to point, choose + ment. So: They **appointed** (choose) him as captain of the English team. So then: Her decision to cancel the concert is bound to **disappoint** her fans: **Disappoint** (fail, sadden, let them down, *leave them in the lurch*).

I was **disappointed** by the quality of my life: disappointed (unhappy, dissatisfied, disillusioned, saddened, thwarted, frustrated, disenchanted, disconnected). The team has had a **disappointing** start to the season. Disappointing (Unsatisfactory, Inacceptable, Unacceptable, Second-rate, Poor, Substandard, Inadequate, Below par, discouraging, wanting, dissatisfactory). To our great **disappointment**, it rained every day of the trip. **Disappointment** (failure, blow, anticlimax, let down, flop, washout, Displeasure, Distress, Discontent,

Disenchantment, Disillusionment,
Frustration, Regret)

Scandal: Disgrace, Shame, Dishonor,
Humiliation, Outrage, Indignity, Disrepute,
Gossip, discredit.

YOUNG MAN: I work in a restaurant.

[The girl **shrinks** (shakes) slightly]

GIRL: Not as a waiter? Labor is noble,
but personal attendance, you know,
valets (servants) and..

YOUNG MAN: Not a waiter. I'm a
cashier in ... in that restaurant over there.

GIRL: [With a strange, **suspicious** look.]
That ... that one there? [He nods.] That
one?

Suspicious: doubtful, distrustful,
mistrustful, disbelieving.

YOUNG MAN: Yes.

GIRL: [Confused.] Are you sure?

YOUNG MAN: Quite sure.

GIRL: But—

[Suddenly the GIRL **consults** (look, refer to) a tiny watch set in a bracelet of rich design upon her wrist. She rises with a start]

GIRL: Oh!

YOUNG MAN: What is it? What's wrong?

GIRL: I ... I am late for an important **engagement**.

Engagement: meeting, appointment, rendezvous /'rɑ:ndɪvu:/, arrangement.

YOUNG MAN: An engagement?

GIRL: Yes!

YOUNG MAN: Some sort of ball or...

GIRL: Yes, yes!

YOUNG MAN: Will I see you again?

GIRL: I do not know. Perhaps...but the whim may not seize me again. I must go quickly now. There is a dinner, and a box at the play—and, oh! The **same old**

round! Perhaps you noticed an automobile at the upper corner of the park as you came. One with a white body.

YOUNG MAN: [Knitting his brow strangely.] And red running gear?

GIRL: Yes. I always come in that. Pierre waits for me there. Good-night.

YOUNG MAN: Wait! It's getting dark, and the park is full of questionable characters. Can't I walk you to your..

GIRL: [Quickly.] No! I mean ... no. If you have the slightest (minor) regard for my wishes, you will remain on this bench for ten minutes after I have left. I do not mean to question your intentions (aims, intents), but you are probably aware that autos generally bear the monogram (symbol) of their owner. Again, good-night.

[Suddenly a WAITRESS approaches (nears, draw up to), wearing a soiled, dirty uniform—**evidently** just coming off her shift.]

Evidently: obviously, clearly, plainly, manifestly, palpably, unmistakably, patently markedly, and apparently.

WAITRESS: Mary-Jane! Mary-Jane Parker! What on earth are you doing out here?! Don't you know what time it is!?

GIRL: [A little **flustered**.] To whom are you speaking, Madame?

Flustered: harassed agitated nervous rattled confused disconcerted ruffled disturbed.

WAITRESS: To whom am I ... to you! Who do you think, you ninny!?

GIRL: Then I'm sure I don't know what you're talking about.

WAITRESS: You're shift started fifteen minutes ago! Mr. Witherspoon *is in a rage* (very angry)! This is the third time this month you've been late! You'd better get yourself over there and into uniform.

GIRL: I...

WAITRESS: Go on, now! I know you can't afford to miss a paycheck(salary, wage,pay)!

GIRL: [Attempting to maintain her dignity.] You must have me confused with...with someone else.

WAITRESS: Confused with...why, Mary-Jane Parker, we've known each other for three years! We swap (switch, replace) shifts! Have you been drinking?! Why are you wearing that **ridiculous** hat!?

Ridiculous: very funny and foolish/absurd: ludicrous, preposterous, absurd, silly, outlandish, outrageous, bizarre, unreasonable. These claims are absolutely **preposterous**! It was **ludicrous** to think that the plan could succeed.

GIRL: [To the YOUNG MAN.] I ... I'm sorry, Mr. Porkenblogger—

YOUNG MAN: Parkenstacker.

GIRL: Parkenstacker.

WAITRESS: Parkenstacker?

YOUNG MAN: Yes, Parkenstacker.

WAITRESS: As in THE
Parkenstackers?! From the society
pages(noble class)!?

GIRL: The society pages?

YOUNG MAN: If only I were so
fortunate lucky).

GIRL: You ... you must excuse me. My
chauffeur is waiting.

WAITRESS: Chauffeur?! What kind of
crazy airs (prides, poises) are you putting
on?! You've never had a chauffeur in
your life! You don't even own an
automobile!

GIRL: I do so!

WAITRESS: Since when!?

GIRL: Since ... Oh, get away from me!
I don't know you!

WAITRESS: Don't know me?! You have been drinking! I'm going to tell your mother!

[The GIRL rushes off, followed closely by the WAITRESS. The YOUNG MAN picks up her book where she has dropped it]

YOUNG MAN: Wait! You forgot your...

[But they are gone. After a few moments, a CHAUFFEUR approaches cautiously]

Cautiously: carefully, watchfully, thoughtfully, vigilantly, guardedly, warily, gingerly, prudently.

CHAUFFEUR: Begging your pardon, sir.

YOUNG MAN: Yes, Henri?

CHAUFFEUR: I don't mean to intrude, but your dinner reservation, shall I cancel or..

YOUNG MAN: No ... I'm coming.

CHAUFFEUR: Very good, sir. The auto is waiting.

[The CHAUFFEUR exits and leaves the
YOUNG MAN standing alone for a moment
as the lights fade.]

Curtain

HER HAPPINESS

Horace Holley

CHARACTERS: THE WOMAN & THE VOICE

[Darkness. A door opens swiftly. Light from outside shows a WOMAN entering. She is covered by a large cape (cloak), but the gleam (shine, glow, glare, blaze) of hair and brow indicates beauty. She closes the door behind her. Darkness.]

Indicates: shows, demonstrate, illustrate, specifies, designates, denote, suggest, imply, mean, signposts, directs, signify, signal, point to/out/toward.

THE WOMAN: Paul! Paul! Are you here, Paul?

A VOICE: Yes, Elizabeth, I am here.

THE WOMAN: Oh thank God! You are here! I felt so strange—I thought ... Oh, I cannot tell you what I have been thinking! Turn on the light, Paul.

THE VOICE: You are troubled, dear. Let the darkness stay a moment. It will calm you. Sit down, Elizabeth.

THE WOMAN: Yes.... I am so faint (weak)! I had to come, Paul! I had to see you, to know that you were.... I know I promised not to, but I was going mad! Just to touch you, to hold you ... but it's all right now.

THE VOICE: It is all right now, Elizabeth.

THE WOMAN: I thought I could stand it, dear, I thought I could stand it. It wasn't myself—I swear to you it wasn't—nor him. I, I can stand all that, now. It was something else, something that came over me all at once. I saw—Oh Paul! the thing I saw! But it's all right now....

THE VOICE: It is all right, Elizabeth, because ours is love, love that is made of light, and not merely blind desire.

THE WOMAN: Ours is love. We are love!

THE VOICE: So that even if we are separated—even if you cannot come to

me yet, we shall not lose **conviction** nor joy.

Conviction: finding a person guilty: acquittal. She has six previous **convictions** for theft. a strong opinion or belief, faith: strong political/moral **convictions**. She was motivated by deep religious **conviction**. 'Not true!' she said with conviction. He said he agreed but his voice lacked **conviction**. The leader's speech in defense of the policy didn't carry much **conviction**. **have/lack the courage of your convictions to:** be/not be brave enough to do what you feel to be right.

THE WOMAN: Yes, Paul. I will not make it harder for you. I know it is hard, and that it was for my sake you could bring yourself to bind me not to see you again.

THE VOICE: Love is, world without end. That is all we need to know.

THE WOMAN: World without end, amen.

THE VOICE: And because I knew the power and truth of love in you I put this separation upon us.

THE WOMAN: For my sake. I know it now, Paul! And trust me! You can trust me, Paul! Not time, nor distance, nor trouble nor change shall move me from the heights of love where I **dwell**.

Dwell: live, stay, have your home settle, reside, lodge, abide, inhabit.

THE VOICE: And because I knew the happiness of love could not **endure** in **deceit**, nor the wine give life if we drank it in a cup that was stained, I put you from me...in the world's sight we meet no more.

Endure: to Bear, Stand, Tolerate Suffer, Undergo, Stomach, Withstand, Sustain.

Deceit: dishonest, behavior, deception, Dishonesty, Treachery, Deceitfulness, Trickery, Cheating, Sham, Pretense: He was accused of lies and **deceit**. Everyone was involved in this web of **deceit**.

THE WOMAN: In the world's sight ... and in the sight of God and man shall I be faithful to him *from now on* (after this time), in thought and deed (act) and word, as a heart may be. Yes, Paul ... even that can I endure for your sake. For I know that hereafter...

THE VOICE: For love there is neither here nor hereafter, but the **realization** of love is ever according to his **triumph**. This has come to me suddenly, a light in the darkness, and I have won the truth by **supreme** pain.

Realization: insight, grasp, understanding, comprehension, consciousness, awareness, recognition, apprehension.

Triumph: great and successful; victory, achievement, satisfaction and joy, example of success: quantum mechanics is one of the greatest **triumphs** of modern science. The winning team returned home in **triumph**. Her arrest was a **triumph** of international cooperation.

THE WOMAN: That, too, Paul. Pain.... I have been weak. *I gave way to my nerves* (give in/up), but now in your presence I am

strong again, and I shall not fail (despair, disappoint) you.

THE VOICE: My presence is where your love is, and as your love so my nearness. Love me as I love you now, and I shall be more real to you than your hands and your eyes.

THE WOMAN: Bone of one bone, and flesh of one flesh....

THE VOICE: Spirit of one spirit! The flesh we have put away.

THE WOMAN: That, too, Paul. Oh the glory (worship, praise) of it! So be my happiness that I shall not wish it changed, even before the Throne (king or queen's position)!

THE VOICE: I have given you happiness?

THE WOMAN: **Perfect** happiness, Paul. I am happy, happier than I ever was before. But before I go home from here for the last time, turn on the light, Paul, that we may be to each other always as

the **wonder** of this moment. For the last time, Paul. Paul?... Paul? Where are you? Why don't you answer?... Paul!

Perfect: Faultless, Flawless, Textbook, Picture-perfect , Seamless, Unspoiled, Unspoiled, Unadulterated, Unimpeachable, Impeccable, Immaculate, Spotless, Unsullied, Above reproach.

Wonder: surprise, miracle, phenomenon, marvel, sensation, curiosity, spectacle, astonishment.

[She turns on the light. It is a studio. At the piano, fallen forward upon the keys, sits the body of a man. There is a revolver on the floor beside him.) Paul!... As I saw him! Is this my happiness. Oh God, must I?]

CURTAIN

A TRAGEDIAN IN SPITE OF HIMSELF*

ANTON CHEKHOV

CHARACTERS:

IVAN IVANOVITCH TOLKACHOV, the father
of a family

ALEXEY ALEXEYEVITCH MURASHKIN, his
friend

[The scene is laid in St. Petersburg, in MURASHKIN'S flat. MURASHKIN is studying. Comfortable furniture. MURASHKIN is seated at his desk. Enter TOLKACHOV holding in his hands a glass globe (ball, sphere, orb) for a lamp, a toy bicycle, three hat-boxes, a large parcel containing a dress, a bin-case of beer, and several little parcels. He looks round stupidly and lets himself down on the sofa in exhaustion.]

MURASHKIN. How do you do, Ivan Ivanovitch? **Delighted** to see you! What brings you here?

TOLKACHOV. [Breathing heavily] My dear good fellow... I want to ask you

something.... I **implore** you lend me a revolver till to-morrow. Be a friend!

* **Tragedian:** a person who writes tragedies for the theatre or an actor in tragedies.

In spite of: despite, nevertheless, nonetheless, notwithstanding, regardless of, in the face of, even with, even though, although: **Despite** applying for hundreds of jobs, he is still out of work. he was good at physics **despite/ in spite of the fact that/although** she found it boring.

Delighted: very Pleased, Happy, Charmed, Enchanted, Thrilled, Elated, Overjoyed, Over the moon.

Implore: beg, **beseech**, plead, entreat, pray.

MURASHKIN. What do you want a revolver for?

TOLKACHOV. I must have it.... Oh, little fathers!... give me some water... water quickly!... I must have it... I've got to go through a dark wood to-night, so in case of accidents... do, please, lend it to me.

MURASHKIN. Oh, you liar, Ivan Ivanovitch! What the devil have you got to do in a dark wood? I expect you are **up to something**. I can see by your face that you are up to something. What's the matter with you? Are you ill?

Up to something: doing sth, especially sth bad: What's she **up to**? What've you been **up to**? I'm sure he's **up to** no good (doing sth bad).

TOLKACHOV. Wait a moment, let me breathe.... Oh little mothers! I am *dog-tired* (*very tired*). I've got a feeling all over me, and in my head as well, as if I've been *roasted on a spit* (*very angry*). I can't stand it any longer. Be a friend, and don't ask me any questions or insist on details; just give me the revolver! I **beseech** you!

MURASHKIN. Well, really! Ivan Ivanovitch, what **cowardice** is this? The father of a family and a Civil Servant holding a responsible post! For shame!

Cowardice: frightened to take risk, being coward; timidity, pusillanimity, trepidation tremulousness, spinelessness.

TOLKACHOV. What sort of a father of a family am I! I am a **martyr**. I am a beast of (kind of) burden, a nigger, a slave, a **rascal** who *keeps on waiting* here for something to happen instead of starting *off* for the next world. I am a rag, a fool, an idiot. Why am I alive? What's the use? [Jumps up] Well now, tell me why am I alive? What's the purpose of this **uninterrupted** series of mental and physical sufferings? I understand being a martyr to an idea, yes! But to be a martyr to the devil knows what, skirts (covers) and lamp-globes, no! I humbly **decline**! No, no, no! I've had enough! Enough!

Martyr /'mɑ:rtər/: a person who suffers very much or is killed because of their religious or political beliefs: the early Christian **martyrs**. a **martyr** to the cause of freedom.

a person who tries to get sympathy from other people by telling them how much he or

she is suffering: He makes a martyr of himself whenever it's his turn to do the housework.

a person who suffers very much because of an illness, problem or situation: She's a martyr to her nerves. I feel like a martyr to this vacuum cleaner.

to kill sb because of their religious or political beliefs: Many first-century Christians were martyred for their faith.

Rascal: Come here, you little **rascal**! I hear the old **rascal's** been causing trouble again: devil, rogue, mischief, scoundrel, scallawag, scamp, reprobate, scallywag.

Uninterrupted: continuous, continual, nonstop, incessant, never-ending, endless constant, unremitting.

Decline: **noun**; continuous decrease in sth; drop, fall, decrease, reduction, downturn,,: The company reported a small **decline** in its profits. **Verb**; come down, diminish, sink, slump, plunge, plummet, tumble. The number of tourists to the resort **declined** by

10% last year. Never **decline** (refuse) an good offer/invitation.

MURASHKIN. Don't shout, the neighbours will hear you!

TOLKACHOV. Let your neighbours hear; *it's all the same to me!* If you don't give me a revolver somebody else will, and there will be *an end of me* anyway! **I've made up my mind!**(I decided firmly)

MURASHKIN. Hold on, you've **pulled off a button** (you are angry) . Speak calmly. I still don't understand what's wrong with your life.

She shouted **button it!** (be quiet). I've known him for years, but I still don't know *what pushes his buttons* (exactly). a new satirical comedy show that **pushes all the right buttons** (do exactly). We arrived at 4 o'clock **on the button** (on exact time). You're **on the button there!**

TOLKACHOV. What's wrong? You ask me what's wrong? Very well, I'll tell

you! Very well! I'll tell you everything, and then perhaps my soul will be lighter. Let's sit down. Now listen... Oh, little mothers, I am out of breath!... Just let's take to-day as an instance. Let's take to-day.

As you know, I've got to work at the Treasury from ten to four. It's hot, it's **stuffy**, there are flies, and, my dear fellow, **prepared** for a **chaos**. The Secretary is **on leave** (off), Khrapov has gone to get married, and the smaller cook is mostly in the country, making love or **occupied** (busy) with **amateur theatricals** (performances of play).

Stuffy: Airless, Suffocating, Stifling Choking, Asphyxiating ; It gets very hot and **stuffy** in here in summer. The afternoon heat was **suffocating**. He was **asphyxiated** by the smoke. Most of the victims were **stifled** by the fumes.

Prepared: ready, set, get ready, provide, gear up, draw up, organized, arranged ; I was **preparing/gearing up** to leave. A hotel room is being **prepared** for them.

Chaos: a state of complete confusion and lack of order. economic/political/domestic **chaos**. Heavy snow has caused total **chaos** on the roads. The house was in **chaos** after the party. The country was **thrown/plunged into chaos** by the President's death.

Chaos: mess, Disorder, Confusion, Bedlam, Anarchy, Pandemonium, Commotion, Disarray, Turmoil, havoc, mayhem, shambles.

Amateur: unprofessional, inexperienced; The tournament is open to both **amateurs** and professionals.

Everybody is so sleepy, tired, and **done up** that you can't *get any sense out of them*. The Secretary's duties are in the hands of an individual who is deaf in the left ear and in love; the public has lost its memory; everybody is running about angry and raging, and there is such a **hullabaloo** that you can't hear yourself speak. Confusion and smoke everywhere. And my work is deathly: always the same, always the same—first a correction, then a reference back,

another correction, another reference back; it's all as **monotonous** as the waves of the sea.

Done up: Disabled; worn out, weary, tired out, ruined, defeated: They were cold, hungry and **tired out**. I'm **sick and tired** of all the arguments.

Do up: fasten, wrap, dress up, renovate, renew, refurbish, redecorate. his shirt was so tight that not all of the buttons **did up**. her dark hair was **done up** in a ponytail. They claim to have spent about £115,000 **doing up** the flat.

Hullabaloo: fuss , commotion, uproar, hubbub, outcry, furor, ruckus, ado, palaver, brouhaha, hue and cry **pandemonium**, mayhem, tumult, turmoil, hurly-burly **roar**, racket, din, noise, clamour, bedlam, babel.

One's eyes, you understand, simply crawl out of one's head. Give me some water.... You come out a broken, exhausted man. You would like to **dine** (have a diner) and fall asleep, but you don't!—You remember that you live in

the country—that is, you are a slave, a **rag** (an old cloth), a bit of string, a bit of **limp** flesh, and you’ve got to run round and do **errands**.

Limp: lifeless; His hand *went limp* and the knife clattered to the ground. She *felt limp* and exhausted.

Errands: a job that you do for sb that involves going somewhere to take a message, to buy sth, deliver goods, etc. *he ran errands for local shopkeepers*. He often **runs errands** for his grandmother. Her boss sent her **on an errand** into town.

Where we live a pleasant **custom** has grown up: when a man goes to town every **wretched** female **inhabitant**, not to **mention** one’s own wife, has the power and the right to give him a bunch of commands. The wife orders you. little Sonya wants a new pair of shoes; your sister-in-law wants some **scarlet** silk like the pattern at twenty kopecks and three arsines long.... Just wait; I’ll read you. [Takes a note out of his pocket and reads]

Custom: Tradition, Practice, Convention, Norm, Routine, Habit, Ritual, Custom.

Wretched: miserable, unhappy, sad, blue, down in the mouth, down in the dumps; I felt so **wretched** because I thought I might never see you again.

ill, unwell, poorly, sick, sickly, ailing, below par, off colour, under the weather, out of sorts, crappy; I feel **wretched**.

poor, poverty-stricken, run down, down at heel, impoverished, **pitiful**, piteous, miserable, bleak; Their living conditions are particularly **wretched**.

unfortunate, unlucky, luckless, down on one's luck, ill-starred, star-crossed, damned, blighted, hapless; The **wretched** dweller in the shanty town doesn't choose to live there.

despicable, contemptible, beyond contempt, reprehensible, base, low, vile, mean, abominable, loathsome, hateful,

detestable, odious, disreputable, depraved, debased, villainous, ignoble, shameful, shabby; He's a **wretched** coward.

terrible, awful, dire, dreadful, atrocious, dismal, lamentable, deplorable, unsatisfactory, substandard, low-quality, inferior, **yucky, beastly**, pants, a load of pants. They had several days of **wretched** weather.

A globe for the lamp; one pound of pork sausages; castor-oil for Misha; ten pounds of **granulated** (grained) sugar. To bring with you from home: an insect powder, twenty bottles of beer; vinegar. And to bring home Misha's winter coat and galoshes(rubber shoes). That is the order of my wife and family. Then there are the commands of our dear friends and neighbours—devil take them! Tomorrow is the name-day of Volodia Vlasin; I have to buy a bicycle for him. The wife of Lieutenant-Colonel Virkhin is **in an interesting condition** (pregnant,

in the family way), and I am therefore *bound to* call in at the midwife's every day and invite her to come. And so on, and so on.

There are five notes in my pocket and my handkerchief is all knots. And so, my dear fellow, you spend the time between your office and your train, running about the town like a dog with your tongue hanging out, running and running and cursing life. From a chemist to a butcher. In one place you **stumble**, in a second you lose your money, in a third you forget to pay and they raise a **hue and cry** after you!

Stumble: Blunder, Stagger, Trip: The child **stumbled** and fell. I **stumbled** through the piano piece with difficulty. We were **stumbling** around in the dark looking for a candle.

Hue and cry: strong public protest about sth: Further cuts in welfare have raised a **hue and cry** among the American public.

You get so **shaken up** from all this that your bones ache all night and you dream of crocodiles. Well, you've made all your **purchases**, but how are you to pack all these things? For instance, how are you to put *a heavy copper jar* together with the lamp-globe or the carbolic acid with the tea? How are you to make a **combination** of beer-bottles and this bicycle? It's the **labors** of Hercules, a puzzle, a **rebus**!

Combination: Technology and good management. That's a winning **combination**. blend, mixture, mix, grouping, amalgamation, mishmash, assortment, composite, composition, compound, concoction, cocktail.

Labors: hard work, toils, efforts, labours.

Rebus /'ri:bəs/: a combination of pictures and letters which represent a word or phrase whose meaning has to be guessed.

Whatever **tricks** you think of, in the long run you're *bound to* **smash** or **scatter** something, and at the station and in the

train you have to *stand* with your arms *apart*, holding *up* some parcel or other under your chin, with parcels, cardboard boxes, and such-like **rubbish** all over you.

Tricks: trickeries, wiles, guiles, ruses, deceits, artifices. They had to think of a **trick** to get past the guards. The kids are always **playing tricks on** their teacher. Was there somebody standing there or was it a **trick of** the light? He managed **to trick** his way past the security guards.

Smash: Crash, slam, Crunch, Blow, Shatter, Break sth up, Bang into sth, Write sth off, Plough/Plow into sth, Splinter. He **smashed** (hit, slam) the ball into the goal. He **smashed** the radio to pieces. The glass bowl **smashed** into a thousand pieces. Mark **smashed** (hit,slam) his fist down on the desk.

Scatter: throw, strew, sprinkle, spread fling, toss, distribute, disseminate, dot disperse, disband, dissolve, separate, diffuse, go away, break up. The explosion **scattered** a

flock of birds roosting in the trees. They **scattered** his ashes at sea. **Scatter** the grass seed over the lawn. The seeds are **dispersed** by the wind.

Rubbish: The streets were littered with **rubbish**. litter, waste, scrap, garbage, trash, Bunkum, refuse, debris. **Rubbish!** You're not fat. You're talking a load of **rubbish**. Nonsense, Tosh Codswallop, Hogwash, Bosh, Drivel, Boloney, Baloney, Babble.

The train starts, the passengers begin to throw your luggage about on all sides: you've got your things on somebody else's seat. They **yell**, they call *for* the conductor, they threaten to have you **put out**, but what can I do? I just stand and blink my eyes like a **whacked** donkey.

Yell: shriek, shout, scream, bellow, roar, screech, howl, holler.

Put out: bother, make trouble. Please don't **put yourself out** on my account. I hope our arriving late didn't **put them out**.

Whacked: exhausted, worn-out, beat, bushed, tired, dog-tired.

Now listen to this. I get home. You think I'd like to have a nice little drink after my **righteous** labours and a good **square** meal—isn't that so?—but there is no chance of that. My spouse has been on the look-out for me for some time. You've hardly started on your soup when she has her claws into you, wretched slave that you are—and wouldn't you like to go to some amateur theatricals or to a dance?

Righteous /'raɪtʃəs/: fair, good and right, honest, square, genuine, moral, virtuous, blameless, upright, honorable. a **righteous** God/anger/ indignation, etc. He made a **genuine/ square/ righteous/ virtuous** attempt to improve conditions. **Genuine/ honest/ upright** concern for others. He is a very **genuine/righteous** person.

You can't **protest**. You are a husband, and the word husband when translated into the language of summer **residents** in the country means a **dumb** beast which you can load to any **extent** without fear

of the **interference** of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

Protest: object, complain, oppose, go against, stand up, flout, defy gripe, Remonstrate, dissent, demonstrate. There's no use **protesting**, I won't change my mind. Students took to the streets **to protest against** the decision. The victim's widow **protested/** at the *leniency* (being not strict, clemency, mercy) of the sentence. He **protested/dissented/defy** that the journey was too far by car. He threw all those that **opposed/went against** him into prison. He's always **gripping/complaining** about the people at work. They **remonstrated/demonstrated** with the official about the decision. You have **dissenting** (opposing) groups/ voices/ views/ opinion in the public.

Resident: Inhabitant, Dweller, Occupant, Occupier, Denizen, Citizen.

Extent: Degree, Amount, Level, Range, Scope, Magnitude, Point, Size.

Interference: They resent foreign **interference** in the internal affairs of their

country. Meddling, Intrusion, Mediation ,Interfering, Intervention.

So you go and blink at “A Family **Scandal**” or something, you **applaud** when your wife tells you to, and you feel worse and worse and worse until you expect an **apoplectic** fit to happen any moment.

Scandal: Disgrace, Shame, Dishonor, Humiliation, Outrage, Indignity, Gossip.

Applaud: clap, congratulate, give a round of applause, give a standing ovation, put your hands together, show your appreciation. The soloist got a ten-minute **standing ovation**.

Apoplectic: He was **apoplectic** with rage at the decision. very angry, Enraged, furious, irate, seething, annoyed, beside yourself, spitting mad.

You get back from the theatre or the dance after midnight, when you are no longer a man but a useless, limp rag. Well, at last you’ve got what you want;

you **undeclothe** (undress, disrobe) and get into bed. It's excellent—you can close your eyes and sleep.... Everything is so nice, poetic, and warm, you understand; there are no children **squealing** behind the wall, and you've **got rid of** your wife, and your conscience is clear—what more can you want?

Squealing: yelling crying shrieking yelping howling wailing screaming screeching.

Get rid of: to make yourself free of sb/sth, set free, let go, let loose, liberate, emancipate, release, unshackle, unfetter, untie, unfasten, loosen, unknot, unravel, unpick disentangle untangle. Slaves were not **emancipated** until 1863 in the United States.

You fall asleep—and suddenly... you hear a **buzz!**... Gnats! [Jumps up] **Gnats!** [Shakes his fist] Gnats! It's one of the **plagues** of Egypt, one of the **tortures** of the **Inquisition!** Buzz! It sounds so **pitiful**, so **pathetic**, as if it's *begging your pardon*, but the **villain stings** so that

you have to **scratch** yourself for an hour after.

Buzz: hum, drone, whine, whirr, whir, ring, sound, chime, jangle.

Gnats: Midges, Mosquitos, Mosquitoes
Flies, Fireflies, Insects, Bugs, No-see-ums.

Plagues: diseases, outbreaks, epidemics, pandemics, infections, spates, pestilences.

Tortures: pains, sufferings, distresses, agonies, torments, anguishes, cruelties, afflicts.

Inquisition: Enquiry, Inquiry, Inquest, Investigation, Examination, Interrogation, Cross-questioning, Review, Autopsy, Analysis, Survey, Probe.

Pitiful: a **pitiful/pathetic** and lonely old man
The starving children were a **pitiful/pathetic** sight. a **pitiful** (feeble, weak, poor) effort/ excuse/ performance.

Villain: He often plays the part of the **villain**.
Industrialized nations are the real environmental **villains**. It's hard to identify

the real **villain of the piece** (responsible for all the trouble) in this case. baddie, criminal, nasty, rogue, scoundrel, crook, rascal, antihero, desperado.

You smoke, and **go for** them, and cover yourself from head to foot, but it is no good! At last you have *to* **sacrifice** yourself and let the **cursed** things **devour** you. You've no sooner got used to the gnats when another plague begins: downstairs your wife begins practicing **sentimental** songs with her two friends. They sleep by day and **rehearse** for amateur concerts by night. Oh, my God! Those **tenors** (the lowest woman's voice) are a torture with which no gnats on earth can compare. [He sings] "Oh, tell me not my youth has ruined you."

Go for: attack, assault, hit, strike, give someone a beating, beat up, assail, launch oneself at, set upon, spring at, spring on, rush at, let fly at, tear into, lash out at, lay into, rough up, let someone have it, beat the living daylights out of.

Sacrifice: *an ox and two goats were **sacrificed**.*

offered up, immolated, slaughtered.
*he hadn't **sacrificed** his humanitarian principles'*

give up, abandon, surrender, forgo,
renounce, forfeit, relinquish, resign,
abdicate, sign away, yield, cede, waive.

Cursed: She **cursed** her bad luck. Damn,
swear, blaspheme, abuse.

Devour: Gulp, Wolf, Gobble up. He
devoured/wolfed half of his burger in one
bite. Flames **devoured** (engulf) the house.

Sentimental: emotional, mawkish,
romantic, soppy, slushy, gushy, maudlin,
syrupy. She kept the letters for
sentimental/maudlin reasons.

Rehearse: practice, prepare, train, go over,
run through. The actors were poorly
rehearsed. She walked along **rehearsing** her
excuse for being late.

“Before you do I stand **enchanted**.” Oh,
the **beastly** things! They’ve about killed
me! So as to deafen myself a little I do
this: I drum on my ears.

Enchanted: charmed, enthralled, captivated
delighted, enraptured, entranced,
bewitched, hypnotized.

This goes on till four o'clock. Oh, give me some more water, brother!... I can't... Well, not having slept, you get up at six o'clock in the morning and *off* you go to the station. You run so as not to be late, and it's muddy, foggy, cold—brrr! Then you get to town and start all over again. So there, brother. It's a horrible life; I wouldn't wish one like it for my enemy. You understand—I'm ill! Got asthma, heartburn—I'm always afraid of something. I've got **indigestion**, everything is thick before me... I've become a regular **psychopath**.... [Looking round] Only, between ourselves, I want to go down to see Chechotte or Merzheyevsky.

Indigestion: pain caused by difficulty in digesting food; dyspepsia, gastritis.

Psychopath: A psychopathic disorder/ killer.
a person suffering from a serious mental

illness that causes them to behave in a violent way towards other people.

There's some devil in me, brother. In moments of **despair** and **suffering**, when the gnats are stinging or the tenors sing, everything suddenly grows **dim**; you jump up and race round the whole house like a **lunatic** and shout, "I want blood! Blood!"

Despair: Misery, Desolation, Hopelessness, Depression, Dejection, Despondency, Anguish, Gloom.

Suffering: Sorrow, pain, distress Grief, Misery, Woe, Anguish, Travail, Suffering.

Dim: Indistinct, Vague, Blurred, Blurry, Hazy, Faint.

Lunatic: Crazy, Foolish, Mad, Outrageous Madcap, Hare-brained.

And really all the time you do want to let a knife into somebody or hit him over the head with a chair. That's what life in a summer villa leads to! And nobody has

any **sympathy** for me, and everybody seems to think *it's all as it should be*.

Sympathy: understanding, compassion, kindness, consideration, empathy, pity, fellow feeling.

People even laugh. But understand, I am a living being and I want to live! This isn't **farce**, it's tragedy! I say, if you don't give me your revolver, you might at any rate **sympathize**.

Farce: a funny play, mockery, sham. The trial was a complete **farce**.

MURASHKIN. I do sympathize.

TOLKACHOV. I see how much you sympathize.... Good-bye. I've got to buy some anchovies and some sausage... and some tooth-powder, and then to the station.

MURASHKIN. Where are you living?

TOLKACHOV. At Carrion River.

MURASHKIN. [Delighted] Really? Then you'll know Olga Pavlovna Finberg, who lives there?

TOLKACHOV. I know her. We are even **acquainted** (familiar, au fait).

MURASHKIN. How perfectly **splendid**! That's so **convenient**, and it would be so good of you...

Splendid: fine, grand, superb, marvelous, impressive, wonderful, fabulous, super.

Convenient: suitable, expedient, opportune fitting, appropriate. You'll find these meals quick and **convenient** to prepare.

TOLKACHOV. What's that?

MURASHKIN. My dear fellow, wouldn't you do one little thing for me? Be a friend! **Promise** me now.

Promise: The college principal **promised** to look into the matter. **give one's word**, swear, pledge, vow, undertake, guarantee, assure, contract, engage, **give an undertaking**, give an assurance, **commit**

oneself, **bind oneself, cross one's heart**, cross one's heart and hope to die, swear an oath, **take an oath**, covenant. All profits are **covenanted/promised** to medical charities.

TOLKACHOV. What's that?

MURASHKIN. It would be such a friendly action! I implore you, my dear man. In the first place, give Olga Pavlovna my very kind **regards**. In the second place, there's a little thing I'd like you to **take down** (go) to her. She asked me to get a sewing-machine but I haven't anybody to send it down to her by.... You take it, my dear! And you might at the same time take down this canary in its cage... only be careful, or you'll break the door.... What are you looking at me like that for?

Regards: respects, esteems, favors affections concerns

TOLKACHOV. A sewing-machine... a canary in a cage... siskins, chaffinches...

MURASHKIN. Ivan Ivanovitch, what's the matter with you? Why are you turning purple?

TOLKACHOV. [Stamping] Give me the sewing-machine! Where's the bird-cage? Now get on top yourself! Eat me! Tear me to pieces! Kill me! [Clenching his fists] I want blood! Blood! Blood!

MURASHKIN. You've gone mad!

TOLKACHOV. [Treading on his feet] I want blood! Blood!

MURASHKIN. [In horror] He's gone mad! [Shouts] Peter! Maria! Where are you? Help!

TOLKACHOV. [Chasing him round the room] I want blood! Blood!

Curtain

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This page is left intentionally blank

POEMS

Fire and Ice

Some say the world will end in fire,
Some say in ice.
From what I've tasted of desire
I hold with those who favor fire.
But if it had to perish twice,
I think I know enough of hate
To say that for destruction ice
Is also great
And would suffice.

Robert Frost

ROBERT BURNS
A Red, Red Rose



O, my love is like a red, red rose,
That's newly sprung in June.
O, my love is like the melody,
That's sweetly played in tune.
As fair are you, my *bonnie lass*,
Bonnie: pretty, lonely
Lass: girl, not lad (boy)
So deep in love am I,
And I will love you still, my dear,
Till all the seas *go dry*.
Till all the seas go dry, my dear,
And the rocks melt with the sun!
And I will love you still, my dear,
While the sands over life shall run.
And you will be, my only love,
And you will be awhile! (a little bit)

And I will come again, my love,
Though it were ten thousand mile!

APHRA BEHN

Love Armed

Love in *fantastic triumph* (victory) sate,
While bleeding hearts around him
flowed,

For whom fresh pains he did create,
And strange **tyrannical** power he
showed:

Tyrannical: cruel, harsh, dictatorial,
oppressive, autocratic, authoritarian,
totalitarian, despotic.

From your bright eyes he took his fire,
Which round about in sport he **hurled**
(threw, flung, toss);

But it was from mine he took desire,
Enough to undo the **amorous** (romantic)
world.

From me he took his sighs and tears:

From you, his **pride**¹ and cruelty;

From me, his **languishments**
(sufferings) and fears;

And every killing dart from you.

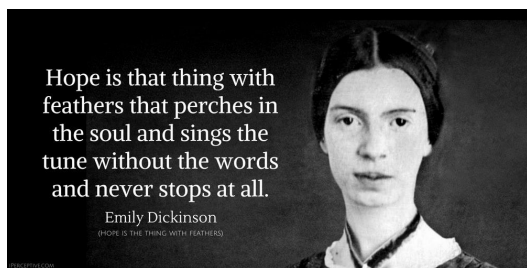
Thus you and I the god have armed
And set him up a **deity** (god);
But my poor heart alone is harmed,
While yours the victor is, and free.

*From you, his **pride**¹ and cruelty;*

Pride: superiority, self-importance,
arrogance, conceit, smugness, egotism,
vanity, immodesty.

EMILY DICKINSON

Death



Because I could not stop for Death.
He kindly stopped for me.
The Carriage held but just ourselves.
And **Immortality**
We slowly **drove** (move).
He knew no **haste** (hurry).
And I had put away.

My **labor** (work, toil) and my **leisure**
(rest, ease) too,
For His **Civility** (politeness).
We passed the School, where Children
strove
At **recess** (breaks), in the ring.
We passed the fields of gazing grain.
We passed the setting sun.
Or rather, he passed us.
The dews drew **quivering** and chill.
We paused before a house that seemed.
A swelling of the ground.
The roof was **scarcely** visible.
The stone in the ground.
Since then, it is centuries and yet.
Feels shorter than the day
I first **surmised** the *Horses' Heads*.
Were toward **Eternity**.
Immortality: immortal: not mortal, live
forever.
Quivering: trembling, quaking, quavering ,
shaking.
Scarcely: barely, hardly, narrowly, not quite,
only just.

Surmised: gassed, presumed, assumed, conjectured.

Eternity: forever, perpetuity, infinity.

EMILY DICKINSON

I'm nobody! Who are you?

I'm nobody! Who are you?

Are you, nobody, too?

Then there's a pair of us!

Don't tell! They'd **banish** us.

Banish: exile, expel, deport.

You know!

How **dreary**¹, to be, somebody!

How public, like a Frog!

To tell your name.

The livelong June!

To an admiring **Bog** (toilet, bath)!

Dreary: boring, unexciting, routine, dull, monotonous, tedious, lackluster.

W. H. AUDEN
Stop Clocks and Telephones

Stop all the clocks, *cut off* the telephone.

Prevent the dog from barking with a juicy bone.

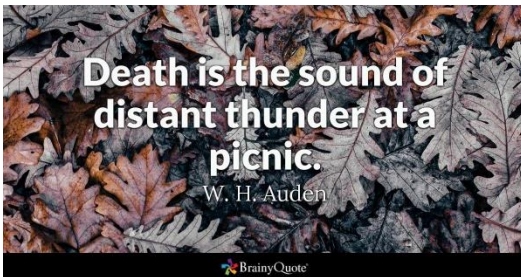
Silence the pianos and with muffled drum.

Bring out the coffin, let the mourners come.

Let airplanes circle **moaning** overhead.

Scribbling (writing, jotting) on the sky the message; He Is Dead.

He was my North, my South, my East and West.



My working week and my Sunday rest.
My noon, my midnight, my talk, my song.

I thought that love would last forever: I
was wrong.

The stars are not wanted now: **put out**
every one.

Pack up (package) the moon and
dismantle the sun.

Pour away the ocean and *sweep up* the
wood.

For nothing now can ever come to any
good.

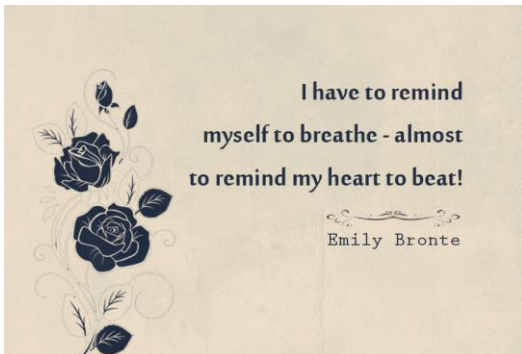
put out: extinguish, quench, douse douse,
snuff, smother, stub out, switch off, turn
off.

dismantle: take apart, pull/rip/ to pieces,
disassemble

EMILY BRONTË

Spellbound

The night is darkening round me,
The wild winds coldly blow;
But a **tyrant spell** has bound me
And I cannot, cannot go.
The giant trees are bending
Their bare **boughs** weighed with snow.
And the storm is fast **descending**,
And yet I cannot go.
Clouds beyond clouds above me,
Wastes beyond wastes below;
But nothing can move me;
I will not, cannot go.



Tyrant: oppressor, dictator, bully, autocrat, despot, tormenter, persecutor, martinet.

Spell: curse, incantation, hex, invocation, evil eye, magic charm, enchantment.

Boughs: branches, limbs, spurs.

Descending: falling, plunging, sinking sliding.

EDNA ST. VINCENT MILLAY

The spring and the fall



In the spring of the year,
I walked the road beside my dear.
The trees were black where the **bark**
(outer cover of a tree) was wet.
I see them yet, in the spring of the year.
He broke me a **bough** of the blossoming
peach.

That was out of the way and hard to reach.

In the fall of the year,

I walked the road beside my dear.

The **rooks** (crows) went up with a **raucous trill** .

I hear them still, in the fall of the year.

He laughed at all I dared to **praise**,

And broke my heart, in *little* ways.

Year be springing or year be falling,

The bark will **drip** and the birds be calling.

There's much that's fine to see and hear.

In the spring of a year, in the fall of a year.

It's not love's going hurts my days,

But that it went in little ways.

Raucous: Harsh, Loud, Boisterous, Rough, Hoarse, Unruly, Wild.

Trill: Shrill, Vibrate, Tweet, Warble, Quaver.

Praise: admire, admiration. Esteem, appreciate, have a high regard for, respect, approve, venerate.

Drip: Drop, Trickle, Dribble, Leak, Nerd, Bore, Geek.

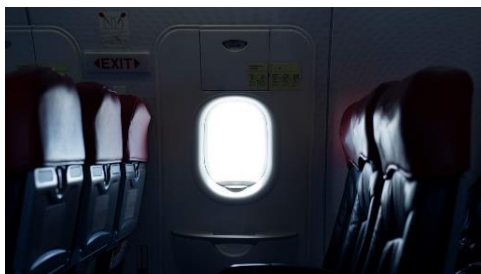
JACK FORBES

Something Nice

My wife said something
Really nice to me
Today.
She said:
I'm really glad
That I married a man
Who
Stops along the road
To pick up
Frogs and snakes and turtles
So they won't *get hit* by cars.

JOHN UPDIKE

Icarus



O.K., you are sitting in an airplane.

And the person in the seat next to you is a sweaty, **swarthy**¹ gentleman.

Whose carry-on luggage consists of a bulky black briefcase he **Stashes** (hide secretly).

In **compliance**² with airline regulations (rules).

Underneath the seat ahead.

He *keeps looking at* his watch, closing his eyes in prayer.

Resting his **profusely**³ dank (moist, damp) forehead against the seatback ahead of him.

Just above the black briefcase.

If you listen through.

Droning of the engines seems to be ticking, ticking.

Softly, softer than your heartbeat in your ears.

Who wants to have all their careful packing?

The travelers' checks.

The folded underwear end.

As floating sea-wrack.

Five miles below.

Drifting (moving, traveling) in a rainbow.

Scum of jet fuel.

And their **docile**⁴ hopes of a plastic-wrapped meal.

Dashed in a **concussion**⁵. Whiter than the sun.

I say to my **companion**⁶, "Smooth flight so far."

"So far."

"That's quite a briefcase you've got there."

He **shrugs**⁷ and says, "It contains my life's work."

"And what is it, exactly, that you do?"

“You could say I am a *lobbyist*.”

He does not want to talk.

He wants to keep praying.

His hands, with their silky beige backs.

Their nails cut close like a technician’s
tremble⁸.

Jump in handling the plastic glass of
drinking.

When it comes with its exploding
bubbles.

Ah

But one gets **swept up**⁹.

In the airport **throng**¹⁰.

All those **workaday**¹¹faces. *Faintly
pampered*¹².

And spoiled in the boomer style.

Those elders dressed like children for
flying.

Hi-tech sneakers and polychrome cat
suits.

Gum-chewing.

Attendants taking tickets.

Keeping up a running **flirtation**¹³.

With a uniformed **bystander**¹⁴.

A **stoic**¹⁵ blond pilot.

All so normal.

Who could **resist**¹⁶ this **vault**¹⁷ into the impossible?

Your **sweat**¹⁸ has slowly dried.

Your praying neighbor has fallen asleep, emitting an odor of *cardamom* (a kind of spice).

His briefcase seems to have **deflated**¹⁹.

Perhaps not this time, then.

But

The possibility of impossibility will *keep drawing us back*.

To this **scrape**²⁰ against the **numbed**²¹ sky.

*To this sleek **sheathed**²² tangle of color-coded wires.*

These million **rivets**²³.

This wing

Like a frozen lake at your elbow.

Think Twice

...is a sweaty, **swarthy**¹ gentleman.

Swarthy: having dark face skin: dark-complexioned, tanned.

In **compliance**² with airline regulations (rules).

Comply: obey, fulfil, observe, conform, meet the terms.

The building does not **conform** to safety regulations.

Resting his **profusely**³ dank (moist, damp) forehead against...

Profuse: large amount/ quantity. plentiful, copious, abundant, ample, bounteous.

profusion: abundance: **profuse** apologies/ thanks/ bleeding etc.

a **plentiful** supply of food.

In those days jobs were **plentiful**.

Copious amount of water/ notes/ evidence etc.

Fish are **abundant** in the lake.

We have **abundant** evidence to prove his guilt.

Ample opportunity/ evidence/ space/ proof.

There was **ample** time to get to the airport.

Ample free parking is available.

A **bounteous** harvest.

And their **docile**⁴ hopes of a plastic-wrapped meal.

Docile: quiet and easy to control; passive, compliant, obedient, amenable, meek, unassuming, modest. **tame** not wild, **submissive** not **assertive**:

A **docile** child/ horse/ dog/ workforce.

A **passive** observer of events.

We should not be producing **compliant** students who do not dare to criticize.

He was always **obedient** (not disobedient) to his father's wishes.

They had three very **amenable** children.

He seemed most **amenable** to my idea.

Hamlet is the least **amenable** of all Shakespeare's plays to being summarized.

They called her Miss Mouse because she was so **meek and mild**.

They hung their heads in **meek** submission.

He was a shy, **self-effacing/ modest/ unassuming** man.

He expected his daughters to be meek and **submissive**.

She followed him like a **submissive** (not **assertive**) child.

You should try and be more **assertive**.

Dashed in a **concussion**⁵ whiter than the sun.

Concussion: temporary loss of consciousness:

He was taken to hospital with (a) **concussion** (faintness).

The walkers were **faint** from hunger.

I say to my **companion**⁶, “Smooth flight so far.”

Companion: along with:

travelling **companions**.

She was a charming dinner **companion**.

A **companion** volume is soon to be published.

He **shrugs**⁷ and says, “It contains my life’s work.”

Shrug: raise your shoulder and drop:

Sam **shrugged** and said nothing.

Their nails cut close like a technician’s **tremble**⁸.

Tremble: to shake hardily:

My legs were **trembling** with fear.

Her voice **trembled** with excitement.

Tremble: To shake slightly; quiver:

leaves **trembling** in the breeze.

I **trembled** (worried) at the thought of having to make a speech.

But one gets **swept up**⁹.

Sweep up: to lift sb up with a sudden smooth movement:

He **swept her up** into his arms.

In the airport **throng**¹⁰,

Throng: a crowd of people: **multitude**, mass, crowd, horde, **swarm**, mob, and host:

We pushed our way through the **throng**.

He was met by a **throng** of journalists and photographers.

I struggled through the **mass** of people to the exit.

All those **workaday**¹¹ faces.

Workaday: ordinary, everyday, **commonplace**, conventional, average:

This was a far cry from her normal **workaday** world.

Computers are now **commonplace** in primary classrooms.

An **ordinary** sort of day.

In the **ordinary** course of events.

8 hours is a fairly **average** working day for most people.

Faintly pampered¹² and spoiled in the **boomer** style.

Faint: pale, weak, faded, dim, indistinct, unclear, shadowy feeble.

Pamper: spoil, coddle, cosset, and baby:

She **coddles** him like a child.

Pamper/ cosset yourself with our new range of beauty treatments.

A spoilt and **pampered/ cosseted/ babied** child.

Boomer, baby boomer: a person born during a baby **boom**, especially after the Second World War.

Boom: a sudden increase or being popular.

A **boom** in car sales

Keeping up a running **flirtation**¹³.

Flirt: He **flirts** outrageously with his female clients.

She **flirted** (interested shortly) with the idea of becoming an actress when she was younger.

To **flirt** (to risk) with danger/death/disaster.

A brief and unsuccessful **flirtation** (short interest) with the property market.

With a uniformed **bystander**¹⁴.

Bystander: Just watch not involved:

Innocent **bystanders** at the scene of the accident/protest.

A crowd of **onlookers** gathered at the scene of the crash.

A **stoic**¹⁵ blond pilot.

Stoic: Enduring, **tolerant** and indifferent, **apathetic** /,æpə'θetɪk/.

her **stoic** endurance.

His **stoical** acceptance of death.

There is widespread **apathy** among the public / electorate/ student.

Who could **resist**¹⁶ this **vault**¹⁷ (jump) into the impossible?

Resist: 1.oppose, defy, fight, stand up, go against, flout, disobey, rebel, repel.

2.struggle, fight back; hold/stand your ground, hold/keep sb/sth at bay, ward off, hold on against so not give in or submit.

3.Stand, stand up, tolerate, withstand.

She persistently **resisted** (faced) all attempts to help her.

I believe we should **resist** calls/ requests/ demands/ pleas/ appeals/ for tighter controls.

Motorists regularly resist/**flout** the law.

I wouldn't have dared to **defy/resist** my teachers.

I finished the cake. I couldn't **resist** it.

I found the temptation (desire, lure, pull) to miss the class too hard to **resist**.

She bit her lip *to hold the tears at bay/resist*.

Resist / hold out against an attack.

A healthy diet help your body to **resist** infection.

This metal can **resist** up to 500 degree.

Your **sweat**¹⁸ has slowly dried:
perspiration.

His briefcase seems to have **deflated**¹⁹.

To let gas or air out.

.. Will keep **drawing us back**.

Draw sb/sth back: Move away:

He came close but she **drew back**.

To this **scrape**²⁰ against the **numbed**²¹ sky.

Scrape: rub

Numbed: numb, insensitive.

To this sleek **sheathed**²² tangle of color-coded wires.

Sleek: smooth, shiny, glossy.

Sheathed: covered, wrapped.

Tangle: knot, twist, jumble, web, mass, welter, kink.

These million **rivets**²³.

Rivet: pin, nail, bolt, screw, press stud, fastener, popper

EDNA ST. VINCENT MILLAY

Love is not all

Love is not all: it is not meat nor drink
Nor **slumber**¹ nor a roof against the rain;
Nor yet a floating **spar**² to men that sink
And rise and sink and rise and sink again;
Love cannot fill the thickened lung with
breath,
Nor clean the blood, nor set the
fractured³ bone;
Yet a man is making many friends with
death



Even as I speak, for lack of love alone.
It well may be that in a difficult hour,
Pinned down⁴ by pain and **moaning**⁵ for
release,
Or **nagged**⁶ by want past resolution's
power,

*I might be driven to sell your love for
peace,
Or trade the memory of this night for
food.*
It well may be. I do not think I would.

Think Twice

Nor **slumber**¹.... Sleep, sleep time
The phone suddenly roused her from
slumber. Rest, nap, torpor, inertia.
..A floating **spar**² to men that sink.
Spar: pole, mast, boom, rod, scuffle.
...nor *set* the **fractured**³ bone;
Fracture: break, **fissure**. A **fracture** of the
leg/ skull. a compound/ simple **fracture**.
Cracks and fractures/ fissures are appearing
in the ancient wall/rock.
Pinned down⁴ by pain and **moaning**⁵ for
release,
Pin down: Two men **pinned him down** until
the police arrived: hold firmly.
Moan: The injured man was lying on the
ground, **moaning**. Groan, grunt, sigh, wail,
lament, bemoan, bewail.
Or **nagged**⁶ by want past **resolution**⁷'s
power,

Nag: continues, complains: Stop **nagging**, I'll do it as soon as I can. Pester, badger, harass, harry, and keep on at. She has been **harried** by the press all week. His daughter was always **badgering** him to let her join the club.

Resolutions: Resolves, determinations, tenancies, steadfastness, **perseverance:** Her **resolution** never faltered (weakened, faded wavered, waned, abated, vacillated).

They competed with skill and **tenacity/resolves**. The only way to improve is through hard work and *dogged* **perseverance**. He remained **steadfast** in his determination to bring the killers to justice.

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

Sonnet 73, Autumn

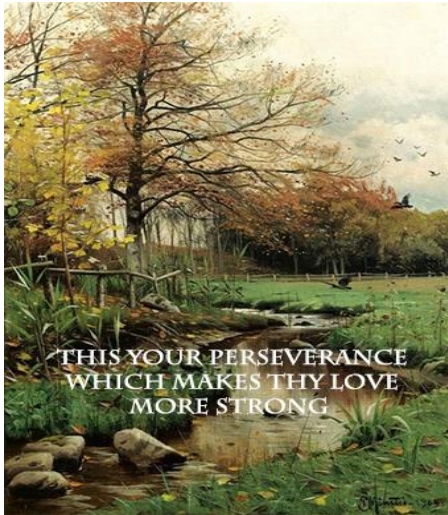
That time of year you may in me **behold**
(see).

When yellow leaves, or none, or few, do
hang

Upon those boughs which shake against
the cold,

Bare ruined choirs where late the sweet
birds sang.

In me you see the **twilight** of such day
As after sunset faded in the west,



Which by-and-by black night does *take away*?

Death's second self that **seals up** (hides) all in rest.

In me you see the glowing of such fire
That on the **ashes**¹ of his youth does lie,
As the deathbed **whereon**² it must **expire**³,

Consumed⁴ with that which it was **nourished**⁵ by.

To love that well which thou must leave ere long.

This your **perseverance**, which makes Thy (your) love more strong,

Think Twice

..On the **ashes**¹ of his youth:

cinders, embers, remains, ruins, vestiges, remnants, fragments, debris, residues, outstanding:

Only the **embers** of the bonfire remained. The logs had turned into blackened **cinders**. There's not a **vestige/ trace** of truth in the rumor. Many of the traditions are **remnants/** remains of a time when most

people worked on the land. Several people were injured by flying **debris** in the explosion. The **debris** of their lunch. Police found **fragments** of glass near the scene. Pesticide **residues** in fruit and vegetables damage our health.

Note: **residue** is remains in small amount at end of the process but there is more about this which is noteworthy:

after these reactions a **residuum** of gold will be left. The burning gas is **residuary** process. There are still a few **residual /outstanding** problems with the computer program. Our **residual** income was not satisfactory in this year.

However '**reside**' is to live in in a particular place then you have; residence, residency, resident and residential.

As the deathbed **whereon**² it must **expire**³, (die, **perish**, and pass away/on)

Whereon/whereupon: and then; as a result of this. He told her, she was a liar, **whereupon** she walked out.

Expire: run out. When does your driving license **expire**? Our *lease* (tenancy

agreement) *on the house* **expires**/run out next month. His *term* (period of time) *of office* **expires** at the end of June. The passport is **expired** not **unexpired**.

Consumed⁴ with that which it was **nourished**⁵ by.

Consume: to use, to eat/drink, to fill and to completely destroy:

The electricity industry **consumes** (uses) large amounts of fossil fuels. Before he died he had **consumed** (drunk) a large quantity of alcohol. A half-**consumed** (eaten) loaf of bread. Carolyn was **consumed** (filled) with guilt. Rage **consumed** (filled) him. The hotel was quickly **consumed** (destroyed) *by* fire.

Nourished: Most plants are **nourished** by water *drawn up through* their roots. A lotion containing almond extract to **nourish** and revitalize (refresh, revive) the skin. By investing (capitalizing) in education, we **nourish** (grew, develop, **promote**, **cultivate**, **nurture**, **foster**) the talents of our children. This your **perseverance**, which makes your love more strong,

Perseverance: persistence, determinations, resolution, stubbornness, doggedness, **diligence**, grit, **assiduous**, steadfastness. She shows great **diligence** in her schoolwork. Their **assiduous** efforts and attention to detail was remarkable.

WILLIAM BLAKE

Infant Joy



“I have no name,
I am but two days old.”
What shall I call you?
“I happy am,
Joy is my name.”
Sweet joy **be**fall you!
Pretty joy!
Sweet joy but two days old,

Sweet joy I call you:

You do smile,

I sing a while.

*Sweet joy **befall** you.*

Befall: to happen/ take place/ come about/

ensue to sb: They were unaware of the fate
that *was to befall* them.

Infant Sorrow



My mother groaned! My father wept.

Into the dangerous world I leapt
(jumped),

Helpless, naked, shrilling loud;

Like a **fiend** (beast, **ogre**, devil, **villain**)
hid in a cloud.

Struggling in my father's hands,

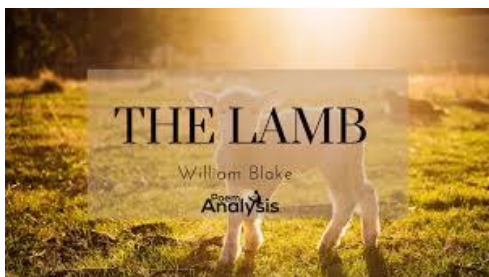
Striving against my wrapping bands;

Bound and weary I thought the best

To **sulk** upon my mother's breast.

Sulk: He *went off to sulk* in his room. Jo was *in a sulk* upstairs. to have the **sulks**: bad-tempered and angry refuse to peaking, to show this

The Lamb



Little Lamb, who made you?

Do you know who made you?

Gave your life, and **bid** (offer, suggest)
you feed

By the stream and over the milk;

Gave you clothing of **delight**¹,

Softest clothing, woolly, bright;

Gave you such *a* **tender** (soft, gentle)
voice,

Making all the valleys **rejoice**²?

Little Lamb, who made you?

Do you know who made you?

Little Lamb, I'll tell you,
He is called god by the name,
For he calls himself as the same.
He is **meek**³, and he is mild;
I was child, and you are lamb,
Little Lamb, God bless you!

Think Twice

Gave you clothing of **delight**¹

Delight: joy, It was a feeling of sheer/ pure **delight**. She won the game easily, to the **delight/ecstasy** of all her fans. I was in a state of **euphoria/delight** all day. **Euphoria/ecstasy** soon gave way to despair. This guitar is a **delight/bliss** to play. *This news* will **delight/bliss** his fans all over the world.

Making all the valleys **rejoice**²?

Rejoice: to express great happiness, celebrate, cheer, and exult: When the war ended, people finally had cause to rejoice. The motor industry is **rejoicing/ celebrating** at the *cut in car tax*. I **rejoice/exult** that justice has prevailed (succeeded, triumphed, won out. **Carried the day**). He

leaned back, **rejoicing/ exulting** at the success of his plan.

He is **meek**³, and he is mild;

Meek: mild, modest, humble, timid
submissive, gentle, docile, compliant.

WALT WHITMAN
The Learned Astronomer



When I heard the learned astronomer,
When the proofs, the figures, were
ranged in columns before me,
When I was shown the charts and
diagrams, to add, divide, and measure
them,
When I sitting heard the astronomer
where he lectured with much applause in
the lecture-room,
How soon unaccountable I became tired
and sick,
Till rising and gliding out I **wandered off**
(strayed) by myself,

In the **mystical** moist night-air, and from
time to time,
Looked up *in perfect silence* at the stars.

ROBERT BLY
Late to Mail a Letter



It is a cold and snowy night. The main
street is **deserted** (empty, abandoned,
and isolated).

The only things moving are **swirls** (spins,
whirls) of snow.

As I lift the mailbox door, I feel its cold
iron.

There is a **privacy** I love in this snowy
night.

Driving around, I will waste more time.

Privacy: She was longing for some peace and **privacy/solitude**. He read the letter later in the **privacy** of his own room. We need freedom of speech and the *right to privacy*. She complained that the photographs were an invasion of her **privacy**. He spends much of his time in **seclusion/ privacy** in the mountains. A period of **loneliness/privacy** in his life.

GWENDOLYN BROOKS

Martin Luther King Jr.



A man went **forth** with gifts.
He was a prose (text) poem.
He was a tragic **grace**.
He was a warm music.
He tried to heal the **vivid** volcanoes.

His ashes are reading the world.

..**Went forth**: went out / away

Huge chimneys gave **forth** smoke and grime
(dirt. soot).

Grace: elegant, calm and confident
behavior: He conducted himself with **grace**
and dignity (self-respect, poise) throughout
the trial. He was not particularly well versed
in the social graces.

LORD BYRON

She walks in beauty

She walks in beauty, like the night
Of cloudless climes (climates) and starry
skies;

And all that's best of dark and bright

*Meet in her **aspect*** and her eyes:

Thus daffodil (a flower) to that **tender**
light

Which **heaven**¹ to **gaudy**² day **denies**³.

(Which the sky reject it when the shiny day
comes.)

One shade the more, one ray the less,

Had half **impaired**⁴ the *nameless* **grace**

(the gaudy day cased half damage to her
indescribable beauty.)

Which waves in every **raven tress**⁵,
Or softly lightens *over her face*, Where
thoughts **serenely**⁶ sweet express
How pure, how dear their **dwelling**⁷
place.

And on that cheek, and over that **brow**⁸,
So soft, so calm, yet **eloquent**⁹,
The smiles that win, the **tints**¹⁰ that glow,
But tell of days in **goodness**¹¹ spent,
A mind at peace with all below,
A heart whose love is **innocent**¹²!

Think Twice

Meet in her aspect and her eyes:

Meet: satisfy, serve, suit, fulfil

How can we best **meet** the needs of all
the different groups? Until these
conditions *are met* we cannot proceed
with the sale. I can't possibly **meet** that
deadline.

Aspect: **arrogance** (pride) is the darkest
side/aspect/feature of human nature.

It's good you can see the *funny side/ dimension* of the situation. There was one **respect**, however, in which they differed.

The social **dimension** of unemployment. There appears to be an **element** of truth in his story. Customer relations is an important **element** of the job. Teamwork is a key **feature** of the training program. Kindness is one of her personality **traits**. She spoke with **characteristic** enthusiasm. Patience is one of the most important **attributes** in a teacher. Compare the physical **properties** of the two substances.

She has all the **qualities** of a good teacher. The special **quality** of light and shade in her paintings. The two groups of children have quite different **characteristics**. Read the manual to learn the program's *finer points* (small details). Living in Scotland has its good **points** but the weather is not one of

them. We heard every **strand** of his political opinion. Trust is a *vital* (essential) **component** in any relationship.

*Which **heaven**¹ to **gaudy**² day **denies**³.*

Heaven: sky, paradise, dream land and cloud nine: I was in **cloud nine/seventh heaven** (very happy) when I passed the exam. I feel like I've died and gone to **heaven**. This isn't exactly my idea of **heaven** (a happy situation or place)! It was **heaven** being away from the office for a week. Four tall trees *stretched up* to the heavens (skis). **Good heavens/heavens above** what are you doing? We went to walk but suddenly the **heavens opened** (a heavy rain started). Everyone thought that theirs was a marriage **made in heaven** (was perfect).

Gaudy: too brightly colored, showy: **gaudy** clothes/colors/noon. This shirt is a little too **garish/flashy** for my taste.

The room was **garishly** decorated/ lit /painted. She was wearing a **lurid** orange and green blouse.

Deny: to refuse and not admit: To **deny** a claim/ a charge/ an accusation. He **denies** (not admit or confirm) attempting to murder his wife.

The spokesman refused either to **confirm** or **deny** the reports. She **denied** all knowledge of the incident. Access to the information was **denied** to them. This version of *events* was **contradicted** by eye-witness reports. She **disclaimed** any knowledge of her husband's whereabouts (location, site). The company/court has **repudiated** (rejected, deny) our suggestion/report. The physicist **refuted/rebutted** this new argument/ theory. She **refutes/denies** any suggestion that she behaved unprofessionally.

Some scientists **negate/nullify** the existence of god. Her offer of help was met with a sharp **rebuff/rejection**.

Had half **impaired**⁴ the nameless **grace** (beauty).

Impair: (Latin; im + pejor: worse).

To damage sth or make sth worse: His age **impaired** his chances of finding a new job. She has two hearing-impaired (deaf) and speech-impaired (dumb) children.

*Which waves in every **raven tresses**⁵,
(dark long hair)*

Raven: a large crow, a very dark color.

Tresses: a woman's long hair **locks**: her long blonde **tresses**.

*Where thoughts **serenely**⁶ sweet express:*

Serene: calm and peaceful: it was a lake/village *still* and **serene** in the sunlight. She smiled **serenely**. The hotel offers a **haven** (shelter, refuge, **sanctuary**) of peace and **serenity** away from *the bustle* of the city*. Bustle: busy

and noisy activity: the **hustle and bustle** of city life.

*How pure, how dear their **dwelling**⁷ (living) place.*

Dwell: For ten years she dwelled among the nomads of North America. So you made a mistake, but there's no need to **dwell on/upon** (to think or talk a lot about) it. *She was sitting there **swelling on** (look for a long time) the wall.*

*And on that cheek, and over that **brow**⁸,*
Brow: /braʊ/ forehead, eyebrow: the nurse mopped his fevered brow. Her brow furrowed in concentration. One dark brow (eyebrow) rose in surprise. His **brows were knitted** in a permanent frown (grimace, scowl).

*So soft, so calm, yet **eloquent**⁹,*

Eloquent: express your opinions/feelings well. An **eloquent** speech/speaker. His eyes were eloquent. She spoke **eloquently** on the subject. His

face expressed *his grief* more **eloquently** than any words.

*The smiles that win, the **tints**¹⁰ that glow,*

Tint: shade, hue, and tinge: Have you **tinted** your hair? The brownish **tint** of an old photo. A delicate/ pale/ rich/ soft **shade** of blue. Her paintings capture the subtle **hues** of the countryside in autumn. His face took on an unhealthy whitish **hue**. White petals tinged with blue. Sadness **tinged** his voice. To feel a tinge of envy. There was a faint pink **tinge** to the sky.

*But tell of days in **goodness**¹¹ spent,*

Goodness: the quality of being good: Making peace is the essential **goodness** of human nature. This universe is the evidence of God's **goodness**. At least have the goodness (good manners) to look at me when I'm talking to you. Branches pruned (cut, trimmed) from the trees are shredded (chopped, sliced, diced) so the **goodness** goes back into

the soil. **Goodness**, what a big balloon!
My **goodness**, you have been busy!
Goodness me, no! You're not telling me
he offered to lend you the money **out of**
the goodness of his heart? (From feeling
of kindness, no advantage)

*A heart whose love is **innocent**¹²!*

Innocent: /'ɪnəsnt/ simple,
inexperienced, childlike, artless,
ingenuous, naive: an **innocent** young
child/love. They have imprisoned an
innocent (not guilty, cleared, blameless)
man. She was **acquitted** (not guilt,
innocent) *on all charges*. He was
acquitted on the grounds of insufficient
evidence. He **acquitted** (performed)
himself *brilliantly* in the exams. There
must be an **innocent** (not guilty)
explanation for her behavior. Thousands
of **innocent** civilians have been killed in
this conflict. It was a perfectly **innocent**
(harmless) remark/fun. Children at an
innocent /impressionable age. None of

us is entirely **innocent** (blameless, **in the clear**) in this matter. You're too **ingenuous** (naive, simple, innocent). It is **ingenuous** to suppose that money did not play a part in his decision.

T. S. ELIOT
The Love Song



Let us go then, you and I (me),
When the evening is *spread out* against
the sky
Like a patient **etherized** (delighted) upon
a table;
Let us go, through certain half-**deserted**
streets,
The **muttering** (murmuring) **retreats**
(move away/back)
Of restless nights in one-night cheap
hotels
And dusty restaurants with oyster-shells;
Streets that follow like a **tedious** (boring,
dull) argument

Of **insidious** *intent*

Insidious: sinister, **devious**, treacherous,
crafty, sneaky, deceptive, **stealthy**,
underhand.

To lead you to an **overwhelming**
question . . .

Oh, do not ask, "What is it?"

Let us go and make our visit.

In the room the women come and go

Talking of Michelangelo.

The yellow fog that rubs its back upon
the window-panes,

The yellow smoke that rubs its muzzle
(nose) on the window-panes

Licked its tongue into the corners of the
evening,

Lingered upon the pools that stand in
drains,

Let fall upon its back the **soot** that falls
from chimneys,

Slipped by the terrace, made a sudden
leap,

And seeing that it was a soft October
night,

Curled once about the house, and fell
asleep.

And indeed there will be time

For the yellow smoke that slides along
the street,

Rubbing its back upon the window-
panes;

There will be time, there will be time

To prepare a face to meet the faces that
you meet;

There will be time to murder and create,

And time for all the works and days of
hands

That *lift* and *drop* a question on your
plate;

Time for you and time for me,

And time yet for a hundred *indecisions*,

And for a hundred **visions** and **revisions**,

Vision: image, dream, **hallucination**,
apparition,

Revision: correction, change, review,
reconsideration alteration, adjustment,
modification, amendment.

Before the taking of a toast and tea.

In the room the women come and go

Talking of Michelangelo.
And indeed there will be time
To wonder, "Do I dare?" and, "Do I
dare?"
Time to *turn back* and *descend the stair*,
With a *bald spot* in the middle of my hair
They will say:
"How his hair is growing thin!"
My morning coat, my collar mounting
firmly to the chin,
My necktie rich and **modest**, but
asserted (firmed) by a simple pin
They will say:
"But how his arms and legs are thin!"
Do I dare?
Disturb the universe?
In a minute there is time
For decisions and **revisions** which a
minute will **reverse** (change).
For I have known them all already,
known them all:
Have known the evenings, mornings,
afternoons,
I have measured out my life with coffee
spoons;

I know the voices dying with a dying fall
Beneath the music from a farther room.

So how should I **presume**?

Presume: guess, assume, imagine, suppose,
deduce, **postulate**, poise.

And I have known the eyes already,
known them all

The eyes that fix you in a formulated
phrase (expression),

And when I am formulated, **sprawling**
(sitting, spreading) on a pin,

When I am pinned and **wriggling** on the
wall,

Wriggle: twist and turn: wiggle, squirm:

The baby was **wriggling** around on my
lap. The fish **wriggled** out of my fingers.

Then how should I begin

To spit out all the butt-ends of my days
and ways?

And how should I presume?

And I have known the arms already,
known them all

Arms that are worn bracelet and white
and bare

But in the lamplight, downed with light
brown hair!

Is it perfume from a dress?

That makes me so **digress**?

Digress: to talk about sth which is not the
main point; go off the point: **deviate**,
wander, stray, ramble, and go off at the
tangent.



Arms that lie along a table, or wrap about
a shawl.

And should I then presume?

And how should I begin?

...

Shall I say, I have gone at dusk (twilight)
through narrow streets

And watched the smoke that rises from
the pipes

Of lonely men in shirt-sleeves, leaning
out of windows? . . .

I should have been a pair of ragged
(unkempt, shabby) claws

Scuttling (rushing, dashing, drafting)
across the floors of silent seas.

. . .

And the afternoon, the evening, sleeps so
peacefully!

Smoothed by long fingers,

Asleep . . . tired . . . or it **malingers**,

Malingering: (mal: bad + linger: delay) to
pretend to be ill/sick, especially in order to
avoid work.

Stretched on the floor, here beside you
and me.

Should I, after tea and cakes and ices,

Have the strength to force the moment to
its **crisis**?

Crisis: disaster, hazard, catastrophe,
emergency, calamity predicament,
quandary, dilemma, crunch, watershed
crux, nub, moment of truth, decisive/
defining/ seminal moment, critical point/
situation, turning/ breaking point.

But though I have wept (cried) and
fasted (do not eat), wept and prayed,
Though I have seen my head grown
slightly bald brought in upon a platter
(dish, tray),
I am no prophet, and here's *no great
matter*;
I have seen the moment of my greatness
flicker (weaker),
And I have seen the **eternal** (undying)
servant hold my coat, and snicker,
And in short, I was afraid.
And would it have been worth it, after all,
After the cups, the marmalade, the tea,
Among the porcelain (chinaware,
pottery), among some talk of you and me,
Would it have been **worthwhile**
(valuable)
To have *bitten off* (cut off with teeth) the
matter with a smile,
To have squeezed the universe into a ball
To roll it toward some overwhelming
question,
To say: "I am Lazarus, come from the
dead",

Come back to tell you all, I shall tell you
all"

If one, settling a pillow by her head,
Should say: "That is not what I meant at
all.

That is not it, at all."

And would it have been worth it, after all,
Would it have been worthwhile after the
sunsets and the dooryards and the spotted
streets,

After the novels, after the teacups, after
the skirts that trail (track, trace) along the
floor.

And this, and so much more?

It is impossible to say just what I mean!

But as if a magic lantern (lamp) threw the
rays in patterns on a screen:

Would it have been worthwhile

If one, settling a pillow or throwing off a
shawl,

And turning toward the window, should
say:

"That is not it at all,

That is not what I meant, at all."

. . .

No! I am not Prince Hamlet, nor was
meant to be;

Am an attendant (helper, assistant) lord,
one that will do?

To swell a progress, start a scene or two,
Advise the prince; no doubt, an easy tool,
Deferential (respectful), *glad to be of
use*,

Politic, **cautious**, and **meticulous**;

Cautious: careful, watchful, **alert**, **vigilant**,
wary, restrained.

Meticulous: careful, **scrupulous**, thorough,
painstaking, **fussy**, **finicky**, **fiddly**.

Full of high sentence, but a bit **obtuse**
(stupid, dull);

At times, indeed, almost **ridiculous** (very
funny)

Almost, at times, the Fool.

I grow old . . . I grow old . . .

I shall wear the bottoms of my trousers
rolled.

Shall I part my hair behind?

Do I dare to eat a peach?

I shall wear white flannel trousers, and
walk upon the beach.

I have heard the **mermaids** singing, each
to each.

Mermaid: a creature with a woman's head
and body, and a fish's tail instead of legs

I do not think that they will sing to me.

I have seen them riding seaward on the
waves

Combing the white hair of the waves
blown back

When the wind blows the water white
and black.

We have **lingered** (waited) in the
chambers (rooms) of the sea

By sea-girls wreathed with seaweed red
and brown

Till human voices wake (rouse, awaken)
us, and we drown (sink).

THOMAS HARDY
Digging on My Grave



“Ah, are you digging on my grave,
My loved one?
Planting **rue**?”

Rue: Regret, **Lament, Repent.**

“No: yesterday he went to **wed** (marry)
One of the brightest wealth has bred.
‘It cannot hurt her now,’ he said,
‘That I should not be true.’”

“Then who is digging on my grave?
My nearest dearest **kin** (relatives)?”

“Ah, no: they sit and think,
‘What use!

What good will planting flowers
produce?

No tendency of her mound can loose
Her spirit from Death’s gin.””

“But someone digs upon my grave?

My enemy?—prodding **sly**?”

Sly: Crafty, Cunning, Nifty, Artful Shrewd,
ingenious

“No: when she heard you had passed the
Gate

That shuts on all body soon or late,
She thought you no more worth her hate,
And cares not where you lie.”

“Then, who is digging on my grave?
Say; since I have not guessed!”

“O it is I, my mistress dear,
Your little dog, who still lives near,
And much I hope my movements here
Have not disturbed your rest?”

“Ah, yes! *You* dig upon my grave .
Why flashed it not on me
That one true heart was left behind!
What feeling do we ever find?

To equal among human kind
A dog’s **fidelity**!”

Fidelity: Loyalty, Faithfulness, Reliability
Trustworthiness Dependability Devotion,
Commitment, Conformity.

“Mistress, I dug upon your grave

To bury a bone, in case
I should be hungry near this spot
When passing on my daily **trot** (jog).
I am sorry, but I quite forgot.
It was your resting-place.”

ROBERT HAYDEN
Those Winter Sundays



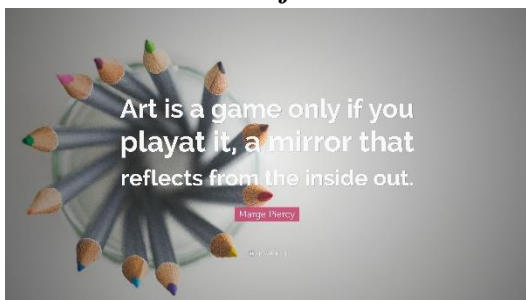
Sundays too my father got up early,
And put his clothes on in the blue-black
cold,
Then with cracked hands that ached
From labor in the weekday Weather
made banked fires **blaze** (glow, glare).
No one ever thanked him.
I'd wake and hear the cold splintering,
breaking.
When the rooms were warm, he'd call,
And slowly I would rise and dress,
Fearing the chronic angers of that house,
Speaking indifferently to him, who had
driven out the cold and polished my good
shoes as well.

What did I know, what did I know of
love's **austere** and lonely offices?

Austere: Serious, **Grim**, Severe Unsmiling,
Harsh, Ascetic, Rigid, **somber**.

MARGE PIERCY

To be of use



The people I love the best
Jump into work **head first**
Without **dallying** in the shallows
And swim off with sure strokes almost
out of sight.
They seem to become natives of that
element,
The black sleek heads of **seals**
Bouncing like half-submerged balls.

I love people who **harness** themselves,
an **ox** to a heavy cart,

Who pull like water buffalo, with
massive patience?

Who **strain** in the mud and the **muck** to
move things forward, who do what has to
be done, again and again.

I want to be with people who submerge
In the task, who go into the fields to
harvest?

And work in a row and pass the bags
along,

Who are not *parlor generals* and *field
deserters*?

But move in a *common* **rhythm**

When the food must come in or the *fire*
be **put out**.

The work of the world is common as
mud.

Botched, it **smears** the hands, **crumbles**
to dust.

But the thing worth doing well done
Has a shape that satisfies, clean and
evident.

Greek amphora for wine or oil,

Hopi vases that held corn, are put in
museums

But you know *they were made to be used.*

The **pitcher** cries for water to carry and
a person for work that is real.

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

Sonnet 29



When, in disgrace with fortune and
men's eyes,
I all alone weep for my **outcast** state,
And trouble deaf heaven with my useless
cries,
And look upon myself and curse my fate,
Wishing me like to one more rich in
hope,
Featured like him, like him... with
friends possessed,
Desiring this man's art, and that man's
scope,
With what I most enjoy **contented** least;

Yet in these thoughts myself almost
despising,

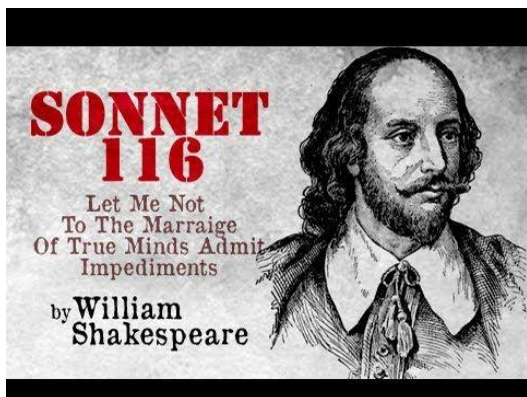
Perchance I think on you, and then my
state,

Like to the lark at break of day arising
From **sullen** earth, sings **hymns** at
heaven's gate;

For your sweet love remembered such
wealth brings,

That then I **scorn** to change my state with
kings.

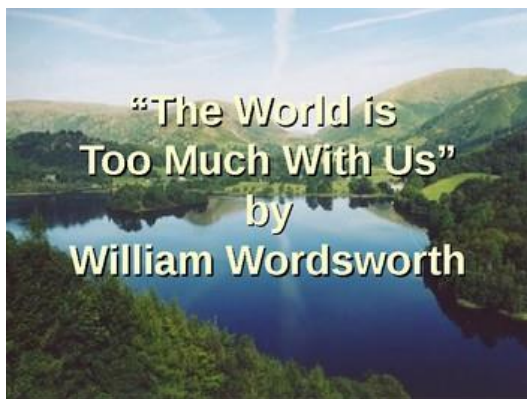
Sonnet 116



Let me not to the marriage of true minds
Admit **impediments**; love is not love
Which **alters** when it alteration finds,
Or bends with the remover to remove.
Oh, no, it is an ever-fixed mark (guide to
mariners)
That looks on **tempests** and is never
shaken;
It is the star (north star) to every
wandering bark,
Whose worth's unknown, although his
height be taken.
Love's not Time's playthings though
rosy lips and cheeks

Within his bending sickle's compass
(range) come;
Love alters not with his time's brief hours
and weeks
But bears (endure) it out even to the edge
of **doom** (judgment day).
If this be error and upon me proved,
I never writ, nor no man ever loved.

WILLIAM WORDSWORTH
The World Is Too Much with Us



The world is too much with us; late and
soon,
Getting and spending, *we lay waste our
powers*;
Little we see in nature that is ours;
We have given our hearts away, a **sordid
boon** (helpful gift)!
This Sea that bares (uncover) her bosom
(warmth) to the moon,
The winds that will be howling at all
hours,
And are up-gathered now like sleeping
flowers,

For this, for everything, we are **out of tune** (out of note, disagreement)

It **moves** (effect) us not. Great God! I'd rather be

A **Pagan suckled** in a **creed outworn**;

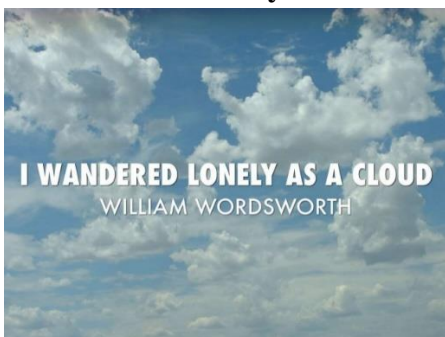
So might I, standing on this pleasant **lea**,

Have **glimpses** that would make me less **forlorn**;

Have sight of Proteus (a sea god) rising from the sea;

Or hear old Triton (a sea god) blow his **wreathed** horn.

I Wandered Lonely as a Cloud



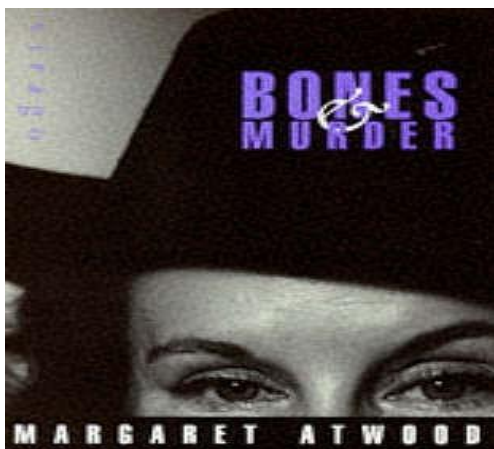
I wandered lonely as a cloud
That floats on high over **vales** and hills,
When all at once (suddenly) I saw a
crowd,
A host, of golden **daffodils**,
Beside the lake, beneath the trees,
Fluttering and dancing in the breeze.
Continuous as the stars that shine
And twinkle on the milky way,
They stretched in never-ending line
Along the **margin** of a **bay**;
Ten thousand saw I at a glance,
Tossing their heads in **sprightly** dance.
The waves beside them danced, but see,
Outdid the sparkling waves in **glee**;
A poet could not but be happy,

In such a **jocund** (cheerful) company;
I gazed, and gazed, but little thought
What wealth the show to me had brought:
For often, when on my couch I lie
In **vacant** or in **pensive** mood, They flash
upon that inward eye
Which is the **bliss** of **solitude**;
And then my heart with pleasure fills,
And dances with the daffodils.

SHORT STORIES

MARGARET ATWOOD

Gertrude Talks Back



I always thought it was a mistake, calling you Hamlet. I mean, what kind of a name is that for a young boy? It was your father's idea. Nothing would do but that you had to be called after him, **Selfish**. The other kids at school used to **tease** the life out of you. The nicknames! And those *terrible jokes* about pork.

I wanted to call you George. I am *not wringing my hands*. I'm drying my nails. Darling, please stop **fidgeting** (playing,

fiddling) with my mirror. That'll be the third one you've broken.

Yes, I've seen those pictures, thank you very much. I *know* your father was handsomer than Claudius. Highbrow, **aquiline** (hooked, curved) *nose* and so on, looked great in uniform. But handsome isn't everything, especially in a man, and far be it from me to speak **ill** (badly) of the dead (dead person), but I think it's about time I *pointed out to you* that your dad just wasn't a whole lot of fun Noble. Sure, I grant you. But Claudius, well, he likes a drink now and then. He **appreciates** a **decent** meal. He enjoys a laugh, know what I mean? You don't always have to be tiptoeing around because of some holier-than-you principle or something.

By the way, darling, I wish you wouldn't call your stepdad *the bloat king*. He does *have a slight weight problem*, and *it hurts his feelings*.

The rank sweat of a *what*? My bed is certainly not *seamed*, whatever that

might be! A *nasty sty* (red and sore eyelid), indeed! Not that *it's any of your business*, but I change those sheets twice a week, which is more than you do, judging from that student slum pigpen in Wittenberg. I'll certainly never visit you *there* again without prior warning! I see that laundry of yours when you bring it home, and not often enough either, by a long shot! Only when you run out of black socks.



And let me tell you, everyone sweats at a time like that, as you'd find out very soon if you ever gave it a try. A real girlfriend would do you a heap of good. Not like that pasty-faced what's-her-name, all

trussed up like a prize turkey in those touch-me-not corsets of hers. If you ask me, there's something off about that girl. Borderline. Any little shock could push her right over the edge.

Go get yourself someone more down-to-earth. Have a nice roll in the hay. Then you can talk to me about nasty sties. No, darling, I am not *mad* at you. But I must say you're an awful prig sometimes. Just like your Dad. *The Flesh*, he'd say. You'd think it was dog dirt.

You can excuse that in a young person, they are always so intolerant, but in someone his age it was getting, well, very hard to live with, and that's the understatement of the year.

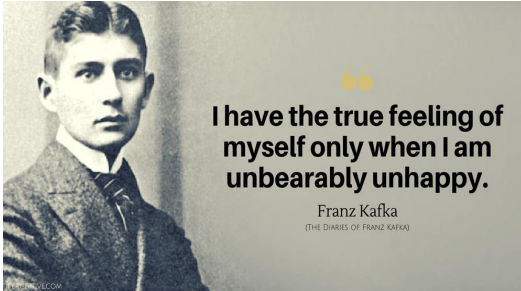
Some days I think it would have been better for both of us if you hadn't been an only child. But you realize who you have to thank for *that*. You have no idea what I used to put up with. And every time I felt like a little, you know, just to warm up my aging bones, it was like I'd suggested murder.

Oh! You think *what*? You think Claudius murdered your Dad? Well, no wonder you've been so rude to him at the dinner table!

If I'd known *that*, I could have put you straight in no time flat. It wasn't Claudius, darling. It was me.

Franz Kafka

The Judgment



It was a Sunday morning in the middle of spring. Georg Bendemann, a young merchant (businessman), was sitting in his own room on the first floor of one of a long row of small, **ramshackle**¹ houses stretching beside the river which were scarcely distinguishable from each other except in height and coloring. He had just finished a letter to an old friend of his who was now living abroad, had put it into its envelope in a slow and dreamy fashion, and with his elbows **propped**² on the writing table was gazing out of the window at the river, the bridge and the hills on the farther bank with their tender green.

He was thinking about his friend, who had actually run away to Russia some years before, being dissatisfied with his **prospects**³ at home. Now he was carrying on a business in St. Petersburg, which had **flourished**⁴ to begin with but had long been **going downhill**⁵, as he always complained on his increasingly rare visits. So he was **wearing himself out**⁶ to no purpose in a foreign country; the unfamiliar full beard he wore did not quite **conceal**⁷ the face Georg had known so well since childhood, and his skin was growing as yellow as to indicate some **latent**⁸ disease. By his own account he had no regular connection with the colleagues out there and almost no social contact with Russian families, so that he was **resigning**⁹ himself to becoming a **permanent**¹⁰ bachelor.

What could one write to such a man, who had obviously **run off the rails**¹¹, a man one could be sorry for but could not help? Should one advise him to come home, to move himself and take up his old friendships again there was nothing to

hinder¹² him and in general to rely on the help of his friends. But that was as good as telling him, and the more kindly the more **offensively**¹³, that all his efforts **hitherto**¹⁴ had **miscarried**¹⁵, that he should finally give up, come back home, and be gazed at by everyone as a returned **prodigal**¹⁶, that only his friends knew what was what and that he himself was just a big child who should do what his successful and home-keeping friends prescribed. And was it certain, besides, that all the pain one would have to **inflict**¹⁷ on him would achieve its object? Perhaps it would not even be possible to get him to come home at all -- he said himself that he was now out of touch with commerce in his native country and then he would still be left an alien in a foreign land **embittered**¹⁸ by his friends' advice and more than ever estranged from them. But if he did follow their advice and then didn't **fit in**¹⁹ at home -- not out of **malice**²⁰, of course, but through force of circumstances -- couldn't get on with his friends or without them, felt **humiliated**²¹,

couldn't be said to have either friends or a country of his own any longer, wouldn't it have been better for him to stay abroad just as he was? Taking all this into account, how could one be sure that he would make a success of life at home?

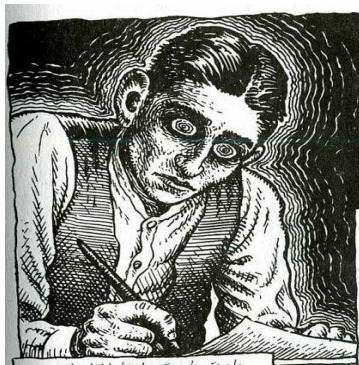
For such reasons, supposing one wanted to keep up **correspondence**²² with him, one could not send him any real news such as could frankly be told to the most distant **acquaintance**²³. It was more than three years since his last visit, and for this he offered the **lame**²⁴ excuse that the political situation in Russia was too uncertain, which apparently not permit would even the briefest absence of a small business man while it allowed hundreds of thousands of Russians to travel peacefully abroad. But during these three years Georg's own position in life had changed a lot. Two years ago his mother had died, since when he and his father had shared the household together, and his friend had of course been informed of that and had expressed his sympathy in a letter

expressed so dryly that the grief caused by such an event, one had to conclude, could not be realized in a distant country. Since that time, however, Georg had **applied**²⁵ himself with greater **determination**²⁶ to the business as well as to everything else.

Perhaps during his mother's lifetime his father's insistence on having everything his own way in the business had hindered him from developing any real activity of his own, perhaps since her death his father had become less **aggressive**²⁷, although he was still active in the business, perhaps it was mostly due to an accidental run of good fortune which was very probable indeed but at any rate during those two years the business had developed in a most unexpected way, the staff had to be doubled, the **turnover**²⁸ was five times as great, no doubt about it, further progress lay just ahead.

But Georg's friend had no **suspicion**²⁹ of this improvement. In earlier years, perhaps for the last time in that letter of **condolence**³⁰, he had tried to **persuade**³¹

Georg to immigrate to Russia and had enlarged upon the prospects of success for precisely Georg's branch of trade. The figures quoted were microscopic by comparison with the range of Georg's present operations. Yet he **shrank**³² from letting his friend know about his business success, and if he were to do it now **retrospectively**³³ that certainly would look **peculiar**³⁴.



So Georg confined himself to giving his friend unimportant items of gossip such as rise at random in the memory when one is idly thinking things over on a quiet Sunday. All he desired was to leave undisturbed the

idea of the home town which his friend must have built up to his own **content**³⁵ during the long interval. And so it happened to Georg that three times in three fairly widely separated letters he had told his friend about the engagement of an unimportant man to an equally unimportant girl, until indeed, quite contrary to his intentions, his friend began to show some interest in this notable event.

Yet Georg preferred to write about things like these rather than to **confess**³⁶ that he himself had got engaged a month ago to a Fräulein Frieda Brandenfeld, a girl from a well-to-do family. He often discussed this friend of his with his fiancée and the peculiar relationship that had developed between them in their correspondence. "So he won't be coming to our wedding," said she, "and yet *I have a right to get to know all your friends.*" "I don't want to trouble him," answered Georg. "Don't misunderstand me, he would probably come, at least I think so, but he would feel that his hand had been forced and he would

be hurt, perhaps he would **envy**³⁷ me and certainly he'd be discontented and without being able to do anything about his discontent he'd have to go away again alone. Alone do you know what that means? "Yes, but maybe he not hear about our wedding in some other fashion?" "I can't prevent that, of course, but it's unlikely, considering the way he lives." "Since your friends are like that, Georg, *you shouldn't ever have got engaged at all.*" "Well, we're both to blame for that; but I wouldn't have it any other way now." "All the same, I do feel upset," she said.

He thought it could not really **involve**³⁷ him in trouble were he had to send the news to his friend. "That's the kind of man I am and he'll just have to take me as I am," he said to himself, "I can't cut myself to another pattern that might make a more suitable friend for him." And in fact he did inform his friend, in the long letter he had been writing that Sunday morning, about his engagement, with these words: "I have saved my best news to the end.

I have got engaged to a Fräulein Frieda Brandenfeld, a girl from a well-to-do family, who only came to live here a long time after you went away, so that you're hardly likely to know her. There will be time to tell you more about her later, for today let me just say that I am very happy and as between you and me the only difference in our relationship is that instead of a quite ordinary kind of friend you will now have in me a happy friend. Besides that, you will **acquire**³⁸ in my fiancée, who sends her warm greetings and will soon write you herself, a **genuine**³⁸ letter. I know that there are many reasons why you can't come to see us, but would not my wedding be precisely the right **occasion**³⁹ for giving all **obstacles**⁴⁰ the go-by? Still, however that may be, do just as seems good to you without regarding any interests but your own."

With this letter in his hand Georg had been sitting a long time at the writing table, his face turned towards the window. He had **barely**⁴¹ **acknowledged**⁴², with an

absent smile, a greeting waved to him from the street by a passing **acquaintance**⁴³. At last he put the letter in his pocket and went out of his room across a small lobby into his father's room, which he had not entered for months. There was in fact no need for him to enter it, since he saw his father daily at business and they took their midday meal together at an eating house; in the evening, it was true, each did as he pleased, yet even then, unless Georg -- as mostly happened -- went out with friends or, more recently, visited his fiancée, they always sat for a while, each with his newspaper, in their common sitting room. It surprised Georg how dark his father's room was even on this sunny morning. So it was overshadowed as much as that by the high wall on the other side of the narrow courtyard.

His father was sitting by the window in a corner hung with various reminders of Georg's dead mother, reading a newspaper which he held to one side before his eyes in an attempt to overcome a defect of vision.

On the table stood the remains of his breakfast, not much of which seemed to have been eaten.

"Ah, Georg," said his father, rising at once to meet him. His heavy dressing gown swung open as he walked and the skirts of it **fluttered**⁴⁴ round him. "My father is still a giant of a man," said Georg to himself.

"It's unbearably dark here," he said aloud.

"Yes, it's dark enough," answered his father.

"And you've shut the window, too?"

"I prefer it like that."

"Well, it's quite warm outside," said Georg, as if continuing his previous **remark**⁴⁵, and sat down.

His father cleared away the breakfast dishes and set them on a chest.

"I really only wanted to tell you," went on Georg, who had been **vacantly**⁴⁶ following the old man's movements, "that I am now sending the news of my engagement to St. Petersburg." He drew the letter a little way from his pocket and let it drop back again.

"To St. Petersburg?" asked his father.

"To my friend there," said Georg, trying to meet his father's eye. In business hours he's quite different, he was thinking. How firmly he sits here with his arms crossed.

"Oh, yes. To your friend," said his father, with peculiar **emphasis**⁴⁷.

"Well, you know, Father that I wanted not to tell him about my engagement at first. *Out of consideration* for him, that was the only reason. You know yourself he's a difficult man. I said to myself that someone else might tell him about my engagement, although he's such a **solitary**⁴⁸ creature that was hardly likely -- I couldn't **prevent**⁴⁹ that -- but I wasn't ever going to tell him myself."

"And now *you've changed your mind?*" asked his father, laying his **enormous**⁵⁰ newspaper *on the window sill* and on top of it his spectacles, which he covered with one hand.

"Yes, *I've been thinking it over*. If he's a good friend of mine, I said to myself, *my being happily engaged should make him*

happy too. And so I wouldn't **put off**⁵¹ telling him any longer. But before I posted the letter I wanted to let you know."

"Georg," said his father, lengthening his toothless mouth, "listen to me!

You've come to me about this business, to talk it over with me. No doubt that *does you honor*. But it's nothing, it's worse than nothing, if you don't tell me the whole truth. I don't want *to stir up matters* that shouldn't be mentioned here. Since the death of our dear mother certain things have been done that aren't right. Maybe the time will come for mentioning them, and maybe sooner than we think. There's a thing in the business I'm not aware of, maybe it's not done behind my back - I'm not going to say that it's done behind my back - *I'm not equal to things any longer*, my memory's failing, I haven't an eye for so many things any longer. That's the course of nature in the first place, and in the second place the death of our dear mother hit me harder than it did you. But since we're talking about this letter, I beg you,

Georg, don't **deceive**⁵² me. It's a **trivial**⁵³ affair, it's hardly worth mentioning, so don't deceive me. Do you really have this friend in St. Petersburg?"

Georg rose in embarrassment. Do you know what I think? You're not taking enough care of yourself. But old age must be taken care of. I can't do without you in the business, you know that very well, but if the business is going to **undermine**⁵⁴ your health, I'm ready to close it down tomorrow forever. And that won't do. We'll have to make a change in your way of living. But a **radical**⁵⁶ change. You sit here in the dark, and in the sitting room you would have plenty of light. You just take a bite of breakfast instead of properly keeping up your strength.

You sit by a closed window, and the air would be so good for you. No, Father! I'll get the doctor to come, and we'll follow his orders. We'll change your room, you can move into the front room and I'll move in here. You won't notice the change, all your things will be moved with you. But there's

time for all that later. I'll put you to bed now for a little; I'm sure you need to rest. Come, I'll help you to take off your things, you'll see I can do it. Or if you would rather go into the front room at once, you can lie down in my bed for the present. That would be the most **sensible**⁵⁷ thing."

Georg stood close beside his father, who had let his head with its **unkempt**⁵⁸ white hair fall on his chest.

"Georg," said his father in a low voice, without moving.

Georg knelt down at once beside his father. In the old man's **weary**⁵⁹ face he saw the pupils, over-large, fixedly looking at him from the corners of the eyes.

"You have a friend in St. Petersburg. You've always been *a leg-puller* and you haven't even shrunk from *pulling my leg*⁶⁰. How could you have a friend out there! I can't believe it."

"Just think back a bit, Father," said Georg, lifting his father from the chair and slipping off his dressing gown as he stood feebly enough, "it'll soon be three years

since my friend came to see us. I remember that you used not to like him very much. At least twice I kept you from seeing him, although he was actually sitting with me in my room. I could quite well understand your dislike of him, my friend has his peculiarities. But then, later, you got on with him very well. I was proud because you listened to him and nodded and asked him questions. If you think back you're **bound to**⁶¹ remember. He used to tell us the most incredible stories of the Russian Revolution. For instance, when he was on a business trip to Kiev and ran into a **riot**⁶², and saw a priest on a balcony who cut a broad cross in blood on the palm of his hand and held the hand up and **appealed**⁶³ to the **mob**⁶⁴.

You've told that story of yourself once or twice before."

Meanwhile Georg had succeeded in lowering his father down again and carefully taking off the woolen pants he wore over his linen underpants and his socks. The not particularly clean

appearance of this underwear made him **reproach**⁶⁵ himself for having been **neglectful**⁶⁶. It should have certainly been his duty to see that his father had clean changes of underwear. He had not yet **explicitly**⁶⁷ discussed with his bride, what arrangements should be made for his father in the future, for they had both of them silently *taken it for granted* that the old man would go on living alone in the old house.

But now he made *a quick, firm decision* to take him into his own future establishment. It almost looked, on closer **inspection**⁶⁸, as if the care he meant to **lavish**⁶⁹ there on his father might come too late.

He carried his father to bed in his arms. It gave him a **dreadful**⁷⁰ feeling to notice that while he took the few steps towards the bed the old man on his breast was playing with his watch chain. He could not lay him down on the bed for a moment, so firmly did he hang on to the watch chain.

But as soon as he was laid in bed, all seemed well. He covered himself up and even drew the blankets farther than usual over his shoulders. He looked up at Georg with a not **hostile**⁷¹ eye.

"You begin to remember my friend, don't you?" asked Georg, giving him an encouraging nod.

"Am I well covered up now?" asked his father, as if he were not able to see whether his feet were properly tucked in or not.

"So you find it comfortable in bed already," said Georg, and tucked the blankets more closely round him.

"Am I well covered up?" asked the father once more, seeming *to be strangely intent upon* the answer.

"Don't worry, you're well covered up."

"No!" cried his father, cutting short the answer, threw the blankets off with a strength that sent them all flying in a moment and jumped upright in bed. Only one hand lightly touched the ceiling to stable him.

"You wanted to cover me up, I know, my young son, but I'm far from being covered up yet. And even if this is the



last strength I have, it's enough for you, too much for you. Of course I know your friend. He would have been a son after my own heart. That's why you've been *playing him dishonest* all these years. Why else? Do you think I haven't been sorry for him? And that's why you had to lock yourself up in your office -- the Chief is busy, mustn't

be disturbed -- just so that you could write your lying little letters to Russia.

But thank goodness a father doesn't need to be taught how to reveal his son. And now that you thought you'd got him down, so far down that you could set your bottom on him and sit on him and he wouldn't move, then my fine son makes up his mind to get married!"

Georg stared at the **bogeyman**⁷² **conjured up**⁷³ by his father. His friend in St. Petersburg, whom his father suddenly knew too well, touched his imagination as never before. Lost in the vastness of Russia he saw him. At the door of an empty, **plundered**⁷⁴ warehouse he saw him. Among the **wreckage**⁷⁵ of his cabinets, the **slashed**⁷⁶ **remnants**⁷⁷ of his goods, the gas props, he was just standing up. Why did he have to go so far away!

"But attend to me!" cried his father, and Georg, almost confused, ran towards the bed to *take everything in*, yet came to a stop halfway.

"Because she lifted up her skirts," his father began to say, "because she lifted her skirts like this, the nasty creature," and **mimicking**⁷⁸ her he lifted his shirt so high that one could see the scar on his thigh from his war wound, "because she lifted her skirts like this and this *you made up to her*, and in order to make her undisturbed you have **disgraced**⁷⁹ your mother's memory, **betrayed**⁸⁰ your friend and stuck your father into bed so that he can't move. But he can move, or can't he?"

And he stood up quite unsupported and kicked his legs out. His insight made him **radiant**⁸¹. Georg shrank into a corner, as far away from his father as possible. A long time ago he had firmly made up his mind to watch closely every least movement so that he should not be surprised by any indirect attack, a **pounce**⁸² from behind or above. At this moment he recalled this long-forgotten **resolve**⁸³ and forgot it again, like a man drawing a short thread through the eye of a needle.

"But your friend hasn't been betrayed after all!" cried his father, emphasizing the point with shots of his forefinger. *"I've been representing him here on the spot."* "You comedian!" Georg could not resist the **retort**⁸⁴, realized at once the harm done and, his eyes starting in his head, bit his tongue back, only too late, till the pain made his knees give up.

"Yes, of course I've been playing a comedy! A comedy! That's a good expression!

What other **relief**⁸⁵ was left to a poor old widower? Tell me and while you're answering me you are still my living son. What else was left to me, in my back room, **plagued**⁸⁶ by a disloyal staff, old to the core of my bones?

And my son **arrogantly**⁸⁷ through the world, finishing off deals that I had prepared for him, full with **triumphant**⁸⁸ **glee**⁸⁹ and stepping away from his father with the closed face of a respectable business man! Do you think I didn't love you, I, from whom you are rooted in?"

Now he'll lean forward, thought Georg. What if he **topples**⁹⁰ and **smashes**⁹¹ himself! These words went hissing through his mind.

His father leaned forward but did not topple. Since Georg did not come any nearer, as he had expected, he straightened himself again. "Stay where you are, I don't need you! You think you have strength enough to come over here and that *you're only hanging back of your own accord*. Don't be too sure! I am still much the stronger of us two. All by myself I might have had to give way, but your mother has given me so much of her strength that I've established a fine connection with your friend and I have your customers here in my pocket!"

"He has pockets even in his shirt!" said Georg to himself, and believed that with this remark he could make him an unbearable figure for all the world. Only for a moment did he think so, since he kept on forgetting everything?

"Just take your bride on your arm and try getting in my way! I'll take her from your very side, you don't know how!"

Georg made a **grimace**⁹² of disbelief. His father only nodded, **confirming**⁹³ the truth of his words, towards Georg's corner.

"How you amused me today, coming to ask me if you should tell your friend about your engagement. He knows it already, you stupid boy, he knows it all! I've been writing to him, for you forgot to take my writing things away from me. That's why he hasn't been here for years, he knows everything a hundred times better than you do yourself, in his left hand he **crumples**⁹⁴ your letters unopened while in his right hand he holds up my letters to read through!"

In his **enthusiasm**⁹⁵ he waved his arm over his head. "He knows everything a thousand times better!" he cried.

"Ten thousand times!" said Georg, to make fun of his father, but in his very mouth the words turned into deadly earnest.

"For years I've been waiting for you to come with some such question! Do you think I concern myself with anything else? Do you think I read my newspapers? Look!" and he threw Georg a newspaper sheet which he had somehow taken to bed with him. An old newspaper, with a name entirely unknown to Georg.

"How long a time you've taken to grow up! Your mother had to die, she couldn't see the happy day, your friend is going to pieces in Russia, even three years ago he was yellow enough to be thrown away, and as for me, you see what condition I'm in. You have eyes in your head for that!"

"So you've been lying in wait for me!" cried Georg.

His father said **pityingly**⁹⁶, in an **offhand**⁹⁷ manner: "I suppose you wanted to say that sooner. But now it doesn't matter." And in a louder voice: "So now you know what else there was in the world besides yourself, till now you've known only about yourself! An **innocent**⁹⁸ child, yes, that you were, truly, but still more

truly have you been a **devilish**⁹⁹ human being! -- And therefore take note: I **sentence**¹⁰⁰ you now to death by drowning!"

Georg felt himself urged from the room. The crash with which his father fell on the bed behind him was still in his ears as he fled. Out of the front door he



rushed, across the roadway, driven towards the water. Already he was holding on the railings as a starving man clutches (holds, grasps, grabs) food. He swung

himself over, like the **distinguished**¹⁰¹ gymnast he had once been in his youth, to his parents' pride. With weakening grip (clutch, grasp, hold, clasp) he was still holding on when he spied between the railings a bus coming which would easily cover the noise of his fall, called in a low voice: "Dear parents, I have always loved you, all the same," and let himself drop.

At this moment *an unending stream of traffic* was just going over the bridge.

The End

Think Twice

*A long row of small, **ramshackle**¹ houses;*

A **ramshackle** building or vehicle is in bad condition and in need of repair: **tumbledown, rundown**: a ramshackle old cottage.

Ramshackle; from *ransack* which means to steal /to search a place and make there untidy or cause damage: She ransacked the wardrobe (closet, clothes) for something to wear.

*With his elbows **propped**² on the writing table.*

Prop something (sth) *against/on* sth: to support sth by leaning sth else against it: **to support, to brace**.

*Being dissatisfied with his **prospects**³ at home.*

Fortune, fate, destiny. Prospect of doing sth/of/for/that: I see no prospect of things improving here. Probability, possibility.

*The business had **flourished**⁴ but had long been **going downhill**⁵*

Flourish: To develop well and be successful; **thrive**: The economy is booming (prosperous) and small businesses are flourishing.

If a situation goes downhill, it gets worse, **deteriorate, deprecate, and decline**: Grandma fell and broke her leg, and she went downhill quite rapidly after that.

He was **wearing himself out**⁶ to no purpose

Wear somebody (sb)/ yourself out: To make sb feel extremely tired; **exhaust**: All this shopping has worn us out. Death came suddenly, since over the years she had simply worn herself out.

Wear out your welcome: to stay with someone longer than they want you to. Go to your friend house but do not wear out your welcome.

*His full beard did not quite **conceal**⁷ his childhood face.*

Conceal: hide, cover, mask, disguise, camouflage /'kæməflɑ:ʒ/.

*His yellow face indicate some **latent**⁸ disease.*

Latent: hidden, dormant, concealed,

*He was **resigning**⁹ himself to becoming a **permanent**¹⁰ bachelor (single).*

Resign yourself/himself (doing) sth: to accept sth bad cannot be changed.

However by itself RESIGN means to officially quit a position, place etc.

Permanent: Lasting, enduring, perpetual.

*A man, who had obviously **run off the rails**¹¹*

Run off the rails: reach to the end of your rope/tether/line/road.

There was nothing to **hinder**¹² him to rely on (trust) the help of his friends.

Hinder: to make it *difficult* for **sth** to develop or succeed; **hamper, obstruct, deter, Impede**: His career has been hindered by injury.

Poor English will hinder / (get in the way of) his progress.

Note: Poor health **prevented** him from going to work. To make it *Impossible* for **sb** to develop or succeed; **disallowed, banned, prohibited**.

..And more **offensively**¹³, that all his efforts **hitherto**¹⁴ (yet, before) had **miscarried**¹⁵ (failed) then he should finally give up, as a returned **prodigal**¹⁶.

Offensive: Very rude or insulting and likely to upset people OPP *inoffensive*: I found her remarks/smell/jock/behavior/weapon/strategy deeply offensive.

Note: This is very Natural (happen often) concept in exams so let's delve (investigate, research) it more with its most near lexicons:

It's **rude/brash** to interrupt. It is **impolite** to stare. The article was full of **insulting** language. **Disrespectful** comments. It would seem **discourteous** to refuse her offer. An **impertinent/churlish** question about his private life. The girl had an **insolent** stare. The boy gave an **impudent/bold/sassy** smile. Let go, you **cheeky** child! Don't get **smart** with me boy!

Prodigal: Prodigal *son/daughter*: someone who leaves their family without approval (agreement), but feel sorry later and returns.

A prodigal lifestyle: Wasteful,
extravagant /ɪk'strævəɡənt/ **profligate**
/'prɒfləɡət/.

*All the pain one would have to **inflict**¹⁷
on him*

INFLICT something on/upon somebody:
To make someone suffer something
unpleasant: The strikes (raids, attacks)
inflicted serious damage on the economy.
To inflict serious injury/pain (*infliction of
pain*). However you may INFLICT (visit)
sb when you not welcomed. Hey buds
(friends, fellows) lets inflict on George
tonight!

Note: This is from Latin FLIGERE; to
hit: which make us:

Inflict, Conflict (fight, clash, skirmish),
Afflict (bother, trouble, distress).notice the
core meaning of "to hit" in all of them.

*He **embittered**¹⁸ (Angry, sad, bitter, full
of hate) by his friends' advice. A sick,
embittered, and lonely old man.*

*He didn't **fit in**¹⁹ (accepted) at home - not out of **malice**²⁰, of course, but through force of circumstances - couldn't get on (deal with) with his friends or without them, felt **humiliated**²¹.*

Malice : (mal-: bad, evil) Hatred, spite and **Malevolence**.

Note: malevolent/Malicious/evil person wants to harm other people but **benevolent** (ben-: good, kind) **generous, munificent, bountiful** guys help them. He gave her a dark, malevolent look/stare/smile.

Humiliate: Shame, embarrass, chasten degrade, debase, demean, and **mortify**: Her boss humiliated her in front of all her colleagues.

*To keep up **correspondence**²²* (communication) with him. A secretary came in twice a week to deal with his **correspondence** (business or official letters).

To the most distant/casual/mutual acquaintance²³ (sb you know; not a close friend)

*He offered the lame²⁴ excuse: A lame excuse/explanation is weak and difficult to believe. A **lame** attempt to deflect criticism. A lot of the songs on this album are a bit lame (poor). But "**lame**" at first place means; unable to walk; **crippled**.*

*Georg had **applied**²⁵ himself with greater **determination**²⁶ to the business.*

Apply yourself: to work hard at something, especially with a lot of attention for a long time: Stephen would do well if only he applied himself (work hard).

However **apply** has another noteworthy usages such as:

To make a formal request, usually written, for something such as a job, a place at a university, or permission to do something: She **applied for** a job with the local newspaper. We need to **apply for**

planning permission to build a garage. This app **applied to** four universities and was accepted by all of them. And to gather up all can say "USE" for others.

*Since her death his father had become less **aggressive**²⁷ /ə'gresɪv/.*

Teachers apparently expect a certain amount of **aggressive** (angry, threatening) behavior/voices from boys. A successful businessman has to be **aggressive** (very determined). He affected by an **aggressive** (spread quickly in body) form of breast cancer. Also **Malevolent/malign** Cancer or **Benevolent/benign** cancer.

*..the **turnover**²⁸(profit, return) was five times as great. The **illicit** (illegal) drugs industry has an **annual turnover** of some £200 billion. **Turnover** rise/fall. Labor/staff turnover*

*They had no **suspicion**²⁹ of this improvement.*

On / under/ above/ beyond **suspicion** (doubt, distrust,). The letter *confirmed my suspicions*. He was still under **suspicion** of **fraud**. She had to allay/ calm/ relieve/ alleviate/ assuage their **suspicions** and stop them probing (searching) any further. He started the rumor to divert/deflect **suspicion** from himself. Police can stop and search you if they have good grounds for **suspicion**. We have a **sneaking** (hidden) **suspicion** they're trying *to put together a deal*.

But about FRAUD which is a crime of deceiving/cheating/swindling people to gain money or goods. **Tax / insurance/ credit card etc. fraud**. He's been charged with tax **fraud**. Electoral (voting, polling) **fraud**. She was found guilty of **fraud**.

In that letter of condolence³⁰, he had tried to persuade³¹ Georg to immigrate to Russia. Send/offer your **condolences**: formally express your sympathy, concern and commiseration.

Persuade: I **persuaded** her to change her mind. Why did I let you *talk me into doing this crime?* If we can't get a taxi I'll *get Joe to pick us up*. It would be difficult to **convince** him to move. Children should be **encouraged** to read all kinds of books. What **influences** you to buy clothes? I tried to **coax** him to eat a little. He hoped to **cajole** /kə'dʒəʊl/ her *into* selling her house. Who put you up to this? How do you **dissuade** young people from experimenting with drugs?

*Yet he **shrank**³² from letting his friend know about his business success, and if he were to do it now **retrospectively**³³ (in retrospect; looking back: retro; back + especere; look at) that certainly would look **peculiar**³⁴(strange, odd ill).*

Shrink From sth / doing sth: unwilling/reluctant to do sth that is difficult or unpleasant. We made it clear to them that we would not shrink from **confrontation** (opposition, fight, clash,

skirmish, hostility,). They did not shrink from doing what was right.

Let us say more since the "shrink" application is different!

My sweater shrank (got smaller) in the wash. Internet in a sense has shrunk the world. The market for their products is shrinking (reducing its amount). He **shrank back** (moved back, cowered back) against the wall as he heard them approaching. She used to be a shrinking violet student at school.

*..his friend must have built up to his own **content**³⁵(pleasure, satisfaction) during the long interval(pause, interlude).*

*to **confess**³⁶ (reveal, disclose, admit, grant, acknowledge, concede, divulge/dai'vʌldʒ/,) that he himself had got engaged a month ago!*

*..he would **envy**³⁷/envi/ (to desire sth sb have) me and certainly he'd be*

discontented: I envy you having such a close family.

***involve**³⁷ him in trouble*: Involve; take in, include.

*..you will **acquire**³⁸(to learn, to know) in my fiancée*, Abstract art is an acquired taste. He spent years acquiring his skills as a physicist/ a good knowledge of Chinese.

a **genuine**³⁸ letter: genuine interest/ concern/ desire etc (sincere). A **genuine** fear of invasion. We need laws that will protect **genuine** (real) refugees. She is the most **genuine** (honest) person I've ever met. Please buy / meet the **Genuine Article** (true example of, **bona fide**, authentic).

*..Would not my wedding be precisely the right **occasion**³⁹ (time, circumstance) for giving all **obstacles**⁴⁰(difficulties, hurdles, hitches, hindrances) the go-by?*

*He had **barely**⁴¹ (hardly, only just; barely audible/ perceptible/ visible/ discernible etc) **acknowledged**⁴² (admit), with an absent smile.*

A passing **acquaintance**⁴³ (friend, fellow) waved.

..The skirts of it **fluttered** ⁴⁴ (waved, flapped,) round him.

..Continuing his previous **remark**⁴⁵(comment, statement, say, quip)

..Who had been **vacantly** ⁴⁶ following the old man's movements.

Vacant expression/look/stare: one does not seem to be thinking about anything: He gazed at me with **vacant** eyes.

..His father said, with peculiar **emphasis**⁴⁷ (stress, prominent).

..He's such a **solitary** ⁴⁸ (lonely, introverted) creature.

I couldn't **prevent** ⁴⁹ (stop, inhibit, preclude) that his father, laying his **enormous**⁵⁰ newspaper:

Enormous (e + norm+ ous): huge, vast, massive, and colossal. An **enormous amount** of money/effort. James **ran up** (achieve) a *colossal* phone bill/dept. A colossal statue of Napoleon.

..**put off**⁵¹ *telling him: delay, procrastinate: The match has been **put off** until tomorrow because of bad weather.*

..**Don't deceive**⁵² *(cheat, mislead, step out, play away, pull sb's leg) me. It's a **trivial**⁵³ (small, petty, slight, unimportant, inconsequential, insignificance) affair, it's hardly worth mentioning.*

..**the business is going to undermine**⁵⁴ *(to gradually make weaken, ruin or spoil sth) your health. The bombings **undermined** several months of careful negotiations. If there's any delay, it will **mess up** (spoil, ruin) our whole schedule. Outbreaks of fighting **marred** (spoil, ruin) the New Year celebrations.*

A **radical**⁵⁶ *change: Radical... will involve great change: a radical reform of the tax system/ideas.*

..**The most sensible**⁵⁷ *thing: reasonable, practical, usable, utilitarian.*

..**Its unkempt**⁵⁸ *white hair: messy, shabby slovenly.*

..**The old man's weary**⁵⁹ *face: tired, drained drowsy, exhausted, fatigue.*

*You haven't even shrunk from **pulling my leg***⁶⁰: I haven't won, have I? You're **pulling my leg**.

Pull the other one/ it's got bells on:
Your dad's a racing driver? Pull the other one! : You jocking, kidding sb.

*If you think back you're **bound to***⁶¹
(likely, certainly, inevitably) remember.

The most **incredible** (unbelievable)
stories of the Russian Revolution :(in +
credit + able)

*Ran into a **riot***⁶² (*uprising, unrest, revolt, coup, rebellion, mutiny*), and saw a priest on a balcony who cut a broad cross in blood on the palm of his hand and held the hand up and **appealed to**⁶³(be attractive) the **mob**⁶⁴(crowd, throng, horde):

Appeal for/to: make an urgent request.
Farmers have **appealed** to the government for help. She is not happy with the decision and plans to **appeal** (request to change decision). The plan **appeals** (be attractive)

to young children. The idea of working abroad really **appeals** (be attractive) to me.

*He **reproach**⁶⁵ himself for having been **neglectful**⁶⁶*

Reproach: The captain's behavior is above/beyond reproach (you cannot criticize it). He listened to his wife's bitter reproaches (blame, criticism). She was reproached by colleagues for leaking the story to the press. **But**

Reproach: *don't be such a baby. He scolded. He's always lecturing her about the way she dresses. Teacher tell them off for the riot in class. Did you get told off? She rebuke herself for her stupidity. The judge reprimanded him for using such language in court. He receive a severe reprimand for his behavior. She chided herself for having such behavior with children. The minister castigated / berate schools for falling standards in education.*

Neglectful: *careless, forgetful, negligent, slipshod; the work was done in a slipshod manner. Remiss; it was remiss*

of them not to inform us of these changes sooner.

*He had not yet **explicitly** ⁶⁷ (frankly) discussed with his bride: (ex; out + plicare; to fold + ly)*

Explicitly: clearly, plainly, openly, obviously, overtly, **unambiguously, and unequivocally.**

*They both **taken it for granted.*** She seemed to **take it for granted** that I would go with her to New York. He just **took it for granted** that he would pass the exam: to believe that something is true without making sure.

Her husband was always there and she just **took him for granted.** We **take** having an endless supply of clean water for **granted:** to expect/think that sb/sth will always exist when you need them, and never think how important or useful they are.

*It almost looked, on closer inspection*⁶⁸,
as if the care he **meant to** (intend to do)
lavish⁶⁹ there on his father might come too
late.

(On) close/closer inspection: look at in
detail: However, on closer inspection, a
number of problems emerged. *BUT*

Inspection the noun of verb *Inspect* (in+
specere (to look)): to examine sth
carefully: regular **inspection** of prisons.
An inspection was carried out at the school.
Let's do more on this:

The report was on scientific
observation. Could you give the paper a
quick **check**? In a series of **spot checks**
(checks without warning) inspectors
searched the office. Doctors gave him
through medical **examination/checkup**. A
tax / environmental **audit**. They carried out
a geological **survey** in southern deserts.
The police are keeping the suspects under
constant **surveillance** /sə'veiləns/.

Lavish: wasteful, immoderate, and
extravagant. The **lavish** person spends a lot

of time/ money/care etc for sb/sth but a frugal one is very careful and economical.

A **dreadful**⁷⁰ *feeling*: shocking, horrible, awful, frightful.

*He looked up at Georg with a not **hostile**⁷¹ (angry, unfriendly) eye.*

*to be strangely **intent upon** the answer.*
be intent on/upon (doing) something: *to be determined* : She was **intent on** pursuing a career in business. *Giving careful attention* to something so that you think about nothing else: his **intent** gaze/stare **on** her was incredible. Jake listened to me **intently**.

*Georg stared at the **bogeyman**⁷²(monster, beast) **conjured up**⁷³ by his father.*

Conjure /'kʌndʒə(r)/ to do clever tricks. Her grandfather taught her to conjure in the festival. He could conjure coins from behind people's ears.

That smell always **conjures up** (evoke, entice induce, educe, seduce,) memories of holidays in France. He strained (tried,

made an effort) to **conjure up** (appear as a picture in your mind) her face and voice, but they had vanished.

*At the door of an empty, **plundered**⁷⁴ (robbed) warehouse he saw him.*

Blunder: The troops crossed the country, **plundering/looting/pillaging** as they went. Only a small amount of the money that he **plundered** from his companies has been recovered (get back). Masked man **held up** a security van in south London yesterday. We were **burgled** when we were away.

*Among the **wreckage**⁷⁵ of his cabinets: ruins, debris, wreck, rubble, shards.*

*..The **slashed**⁷⁶ (reduced, decreased, lowered) **remnants**⁷⁷ (leftovers, offcuts, loose ends) of his goods.*

***Mimicking**⁷⁸ (imitating, aping, simulating) her he lifted his shirt.*

*She lifted her skirts like this and this you **made up** (invented) to her, and in order to make her undisturbed you have **disgraced**⁷⁹ (disrespect) your mother's memory,*

betrayed⁸⁰ (to hurt sb who trust you) your friend and stuck your father into bed.

His insight made him ***radiant***⁸¹: great happiness, love and health.

A ***pounce***⁸² from behind or above: jump, leap spring.

He recalled this long-forgotten **resolve**⁸³ and forgot it again. Let's work on it:

Resolve (noun): She did not weaken in her **resolve**. (Strong determination, resolution). The difficulties in her way merely strengthened her **resolve**. It was a test of his **stamina** (strength) and **resolve**.

Resolve as verb:;

to resolve (to settle, solve, repair, mend, *patch sth up, sort sth out*, sort) an issue/a dispute/a conflict/a crisis/ an argument/ differences/ oppositions. They **resolved** that the matter be referred to a higher authority. Attempts are being made **to resolve** the security problem in schools. We must **resolve** this complex argument **into** its basic elements. The discussion eventually **resolved** itself **into** two main issues.

Georg could not resist the **retort** ⁸⁴: answer, reply, response. Don't be ridiculous!' Pat **retorted** angrily. Sam **retorted** *that* it was my fault as much as his.

What other relief ⁸⁵ (getting rid of, comfort, consolation,) *was left to a poor old widower?* Modern methods of **pain relief**. Plan to **relief of** poverty/misery/suffering.

plagued ⁸⁶ /pleɪɡ/ (troubled, hounded) by a disloyal staff. To **be plagued by** doubt. Financial problems are **plaguing** the company. The team has been **plagued** by his injury this season. However; an outbreak of the **plague** (epidemic) of AIDS/covid19/ as a noun.

And my son **arrogantly** ⁸⁷ (proudly, not humbly, hauntingly, conceitedly) walk through the world, finishing off deals that I had prepared for him, full with **triumphant** ⁸⁸ **glee** ⁸⁹ and stepping away from his father.

They emerged **triumphant** (very successful, victorious) in the September election. A **triumphant** smile. I was right; he said **triumphantly**.

What if he **topples**⁹⁰ and **smashes**⁹¹ himself!

Topple: to become/make sth unsteady and fall down. The pile of stones **toppled** over. The robber **toppled** backwards into the river. a plot to **topple** (overthrew; lose his authority) the President.

Smash: the sound of waves **smashing** *against* the rocks. The car **smashed** (slam) *into* a tree. Mark **smashed** his fist down on the desk: to hit with a lot of force against sth solid.

You're only hanging back of your own accord: He came back *of his own accord*. The symptoms will clear up *of their own accord*: without being asked, forced or helped.

However **ACCORD** means a formal agreement: The two sides signed a **peace accord** last July. This action would not be **in accord with** our policy. Our society

accords (agree) the family great importance. His views **accord** (agree) with public opinion.

*Georg made a **grimace**⁹² of disbelief. His father only nodded, **confirming**⁹³ (approving, authorizing, authenticating) the truth of his words.*

to **make/give a grimace** of pain. ‘What's that?’ she asked with a **grimace**. To make an ugly expression with your face to show pain, disgust, etc. He **grimaced** at the bitter taste. She **grimaced** as the needle went in.

Confirm: Can you **confirm** (prove, approve,) what happened? His guilty expression **confirmed/validate** my suspicions. The walk in the mountains **confirmed** his fear of heights. He was **confirmed** as captain for the rest of the season. But its family is very important in exams since related to lots of different activities so lets examine them:

The witness story was not **supported/substantiated/corroborated** by the evidence. The crowd of mourners

(grievors) at his funeral *bore/give witness to* the great affection in which he was held. The legal profession is still a largely male world, *as evidenced by/testify to* the small number of women judges.

*He crumples*⁹⁴ *your letters unopened:* crush them into folds. She **crumpled** the letter up into a ball and threw it on the fire. This material **crumples** very easily. Her face **crumpled up** and she *burst into tears*.

*In his enthusiasm*⁹⁵ *he waved his arm over his head:* He had a real **enthusiasm** for the work. Full of enthusiasm. Physics is her merely enthusiasm.

*His father said pityingly*⁹⁶, *in an offhand*⁹⁷ *manner:* **pitying** look/smile: with sympathy. *Offhand:* not showing much interest: an **offhand** manner. He was very **offhand** with me.

An **innocent**⁹⁸ (naive) child, yes, that you were, truly, but still more truly have you been a **devilish**⁹⁹ human being! -- And

therefore take note: I **sentence**¹⁰⁰ you now to death by drowning (sinking)!"

There must be an **innocent** (not guilty) explanation for her behavior. She was found **innocent (not guilty)** of any crime. An **innocent** (naive) young child. It was all **innocent** (harmless) fun. It was a perfectly **innocent** (harmless) remark.

Devilish /devəliʃ/ cruel or evil: a devilish conspiracy (scheme, plot). He was handsome, with a devilish (attractive) charm.

Sentence: The prisoner has served (completed) his **sentence** and will be released tomorrow. The judge gave him a jail/prison **sentence** He's currently serving a **life sentence/death sentence** for murder: punishment given by a court.

He swung himself over, like the distinguished¹⁰¹ gymnast he had once been in his youth, to his parents' pride.

Distinguished: being admired, important and successful (Latin: **dis;** apart + **stinguere;** put out): A

distinguished/notable/illustrious career in medicine. I think grey hair makes you look very **distinguished**. He has been described as the world's **greatest/famous/famed/well-known/renowned** violinist. A **prestigious/prominent**, award /university. The city's most **impressive/esteemed/prominent/prestigious** and high-class hotel.

The house was designed by an **eminent/prominent/outstanding/celebrated** architect. Mirzakhani was the only woman to rise to such an **exalted/high/lofty/grand/glorious/dignified** position in mathematics.

You learned around 30 words in one family!!!

JAMES JOYCE

ARABY



North Richmond Street, being blind (dead-end) was a quiet street except at the hour when the Christian Brothers' School set the boys free. A **uninhabited**¹ house of two stories stood at the blind end, detached from its neighbors in a square ground. The other houses of the street, **conscious**² of **decent**³ lives within them, gazed at one another with brown **imperturbable**⁴ faces.

The former **tenant**⁵ of our house, a priest, had died in the back drawing room. Air was musty (damp smelling, dank) from *having long been enclosed*, in all the rooms, and the waste room behind the kitchen was littered with old useless papers. Among these I found a few paper-covered books, the pages of which were curled and damp: *The Abbot*, by Walter Scott, *The Devout Communicant* and *The Memoirs of Vidocq* (the memoirs of the chief of the French detective force). *I liked the last best* because its leaves were yellow. The wild garden behind the house contained a central apple-tree and a few **straggling**⁶ bushes under one of which I found *the late tenant's rusty bicycle-pump*. He had been a

very **charitable**⁷ priest; in his will he had left all his money to institutions and the furniture of his house to his sister.

When the short days of winter came evening fell before we had well eaten our dinners. When we met in the street the houses had grown **somber**⁸. The space of sky above us was the color of ever-changing violet and towards it the lamps of the street lifted their **feeble**⁹ lanterns. The cold air **stung**¹⁰ us and we played till our bodies glowed. Our shouts echoed in the silent street. *The career of our play* brought us through the dark muddy streets behind the houses where we **ran the gauntlet**¹¹ of the wild tribes from the cottages, to the back doors of the dark **dripping**¹² gardens where **odors**¹³

arose from the ash pits, to the dark **odorous** stables where a coachman combed the horse or music from the **distorted**¹⁴ harness (leather strips).

When we returned to the street, light had filled the area from the kitchen windows. If my uncle was seen turning the corner we hid in the shadow until we had seen him safely went in. Or if Manga's sister came out on the doorstep *to call her brother in to his tea* we watched her from our shadow peering (looking carefully, **scrutinizing**) up and down the street.

We waited to see *whether* she would remain *or* go in and, if she remained (stayed, kept on), we left our shadow and walked up to Mangan's steps **reluctantly**¹⁵. She was waiting for us, *her figure defined*

by the light from the half-opened door. Her brother always **teased**¹⁶ her instead of obeying.



I stood by the railings (fences, rails) looking at her. Her dress swung as she walked and the soft braid (twisted bunch of sth) of her hair was moving from side to side.

Every morning I *lay on* the floor in the front parlor (salon) *watching her door*. The blind (shadow) was pulled down to within an inch of the ribbon so that I could not be seen. When she

came out on the doorstep my heart leaped (start to beat hardly). I ran to the hall, seized my books and followed her. I kept her brown figure always in my eye and, when we came near the point at which our ways **diverged**¹⁷, I quickened my pace (step) and passed her. This happened morning after morning. I had never spoken to her, except for a few **casual**¹⁸ words, and yet her name was like a **summons**¹⁹ to all my foolish blood.

Her image **accompanied**²⁰ me even in places the most **hostile**²¹ (unfriendly, aggressive, antagonistic, on the warpath) to romance.

On Saturday evenings when my aunt went marketing I had to go to carry some of the parcels. We walked through the widening streets,

jostled²² by **drunken**²³ men and bargaining women, amid (among) the **curses**²⁴ of laborers, the **shrill**²⁵ **litanies**²⁶ of shop-boys *who stood on guard* by the barrels. The nasal (/ˈneɪzl/, produce by nose) chanting (singing) of street-singers, who sang a *come-all-you* (it was a topical song that began "Come all you gallant Irishmen") about O'Donovan (*Jeremiah O'Donovan* (1831–1915), a popular Irish leader who was jailed by the British for advocating violent rebellion.) Rosa, or a ballad (folksong) about the troubles in our native land. These noises **converged**²⁷ in a single **sensation**²⁸ of life for me: I imagined that I bore my **chalice**²⁹ safely through a **throng**³⁰ of **foes**³¹. Her name sprang (suddenly came) to my lips at

moments in strange prayers and **praises**³² which I myself did not understand. My eyes were often full of tears and at times a flood from my heart *seemed to pour itself out into* my bosom (/ˈbʊzəm/ chest, breast). I *thought little of* the future. I did not know *whether I would ever speak to her or not, or if I spoke to her, how I could tell her* of my **confused**³³ **adoration**³⁴. But my body was like a harp and her words and gestures were like fingers running upon the wires!

One evening I went into the back drawing-room in which the priest had died. It was a dark rainy evening and there was no sound in the house. Through one of the broken windowpanes/panes I heard the rain **impinge**³⁵ upon the earth, the fine **incessant**³⁶ needles of water playing

in the **sodden**³⁷ beds. Some distant (far) lamp or lighted window gleamed (shined, blazed) below me. I was thankful that I could see so little. All my senses seemed to desire to **veil** (mask, cover) themselves and, feeling that I *was about to* slip from them, I pressed the palms of my hands together until they **trembled**³⁸, **murmuring**³⁹: *O love! O love!* Many times.

At last she spoke to me. When she addressed (talked) the first words to me I was so confused that I did not know what to answer. She asked me was I going to *Araby*. I forget whether I answered yes or no. It would be a **splendid**⁴⁰ bazaar, she said; she would love to go.

And why can't you? I asked.

While she spoke she turned a silver bracelet (chain) round and round her wrist.

She could not go, she said, because there would be a **retreat**⁴¹ that week in **convent**⁴². Her brother and two other boys were fighting for their caps and I was alone at the railings. She held one of the spikes, bowing her head towards me. The light from the lamp opposite our door caught the white curve of her neck, lit up her hair that rested there and, falling, lit up the hand upon the railing. It fell over one side of her dress and caught the white border of a petticoat, just visible as she stood at ease.

It is well for you, she said.

If I go, I said, I will bring you something.

What **innumerable**⁴³ **follies**⁴⁴ laid **waste**⁴⁵ my waking and sleeping thoughts after that evening! I wished to **annihilate**⁴⁶ the **tedious**⁴⁷ **intervening**⁴⁸ days. I **chafed**⁴⁹ against the work of school. At night in my bedroom and by day in the classroom her image came between me and the page I **strove**⁵⁰ to read. The syllables of the word *Araby were recalled to me* through the silence in which my **luxuriated**⁵¹ soul and cast an Eastern **enchantment**⁵² over me.

I asked for leave to go to the bazaar (market, marketplace) on Saturday night. My aunt was surprised and hoped it was not some **Freemason**⁵³ affair. I answered few questions in class. I watched my teacher's face pass from **amiability**⁵⁴ to **sternness**⁵⁵; he hoped I was not

beginning to **idle**⁵⁶. I could not bring my **wandering**⁵⁶ thoughts together.

*I had hardly any patience with the serious work of life which, now that it stood between me and my **desire**⁵⁷, seemed to me child's play, ugly **monotonous**⁵⁸ child's play. On Saturday morning I reminded my uncle that I wished to go to the bazaar in the evening. He was **fussing**⁵⁹ at the hallstand, looking for the hat brush, and answered me **curtly**⁶⁰:*

Yes, boy, I know.

As he was in the hall I could not go into the front parlor and lie at the window. I left the house in bad **humor**⁶² and walked slowly towards the school. The air was **pitilessly**⁶³ raw (very cold) and already my heart **misgave**⁶⁴ me.

*When I came home to dinner my uncle had not yet been home. Still it was early. I sat staring at the clock for some time and, when its ticking began to **irritate**⁶⁵ me, I left the room. I **mounted**⁶⁶ the staircase and got the upper part of the house. The *high cold empty* **gloomy**⁶⁷ rooms liberated me (made me feel free) and I went from room to room singing. From the front window I saw my **companions**⁶⁸ playing below in the street. Their cries reached me **faded**⁶⁹ and **indistinct**⁷⁰ and, **leaning**⁷¹ my forehead against the cool glass, I looked over at the dark house where she lived. I may have stood there for an hour, seeing nothing but the brown- dressed figure **cast**⁷² by my imagination, **touched**⁷³ **discreetly**⁷⁴ by the*

lamplight at the curved neck, at the hand upon the railings and at the border below the dress.

When I came downstairs again I found Mrs. Mercer sitting at the fire. She was an old **garrulous**⁷⁵ woman, a money-lender's widow, who collected used stamps for some **pious**⁷⁶ purpose. I had to **endure**⁷⁷ the **gossip**⁷⁸ of the tea-table. The meal was **prolonged**⁷⁹ beyond an hour and still my uncle did not come. Mrs. Mercer stood up to go: she was sorry she couldn't wait any longer, but it was after eight o'clock and she did not like to be out late, as the night air was bad for her.

When she had gone I began to walk up and down the room, clenching (pressing/squeezing tightly) my fists. My aunt said:

I'm afraid you may put off your bazaar for this night of Our Lord. At nine o'clock I heard my uncle's **latchkey**⁸⁰ in the hall-door. I heard him talking to himself and heard the hallstand rocking when it had received the weight of his overcoat. I could interpret these signs. When he was midway through his dinner I asked him to give me the money to go to the bazaar. He had forgotten. The people are in bed and after their first sleep now, he said. I did not smile. My aunt said to him energetically: Can't you give him the money and let him go? You've kept him late enough as it is. My uncle said he was very sorry he had forgotten. He said he believed in the old saying: **All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy**⁸¹. He asked

me where I was going and, when I had told him a second time he asked me did I know; The Arab to His Favorite Steed!! Which was a popular **sentimental**⁸² poem by Caroline Norton (1808–1877).

When I left the kitchen he was about to **recite**⁸³ the opening lines of the piece (of poem) to my aunt. I held a 10 pound tightly in my hand as I strode (walked) down Buckingham Street towards the station. The sight of the streets **thronged**⁸⁴ with buyers and **glaring**⁸⁵ with gas recalled to me the purpose of my journey.

I took my seat in a third-class carriage of a **deserted**⁸⁶ train. After an **intolerable**⁸⁷ **delay**⁸⁸ the train moved *out* of the station slowly. It crept forward among **ruinous**⁸⁹

houses and over the twinkling (shining, blinking, sparkling) river.

At Westland Row Station a crowd of people pressed to the carriage doors; but the porters moved them back, saying that it was a special train for the bazaar. I remained alone in the **bare**⁹⁰ carriage. In a few minutes the train **drew up**⁹¹ beside an **improvised**⁹² wooden platform. *I passed out on to the road* and saw by the lighted dial of a clock that it was ten minutes to ten.

In front of me was a large building which displayed the magical name. I could not find any sixpenny entrance and, fearing that the bazaar would be closed, I passed in quickly through a **turnstile**⁹³, handing a penny to a weary-looking man. I found myself

in a big hall **girdled**⁹⁴ at half its height by a gallery.

Nearly all the stalls (stands, shops) were closed and the greater part of the hall was in darkness. I recognized a silence like that which **pervades**⁹⁵ a church after a service. I walked into the center of the bazaar **timidly**⁹⁶. A few people were gathered about the stalls which were still open. Before a curtain, over which the words *Café Chantant* were written in colored lamps, two men were counting money on a salver (a metal tray). I listened to the fall of the coins. Remembering with difficulty why I had come I went over to one of the stalls and **examined** porcelain (china, chinaware) vases and flowered tea-sets. At the door of the stall a young lady was talking and

laughing with two young gentlemen.
I remarked their English accents and
listened vaguely to their
conversation.



O, I never said such a thing!

O, but you did!

O, but I didn't!

Didn't she say that?

Yes! I heard her.

O, there's a . . . **fib**⁹⁷!

Observing me the young lady came
over and asked me did I wish to buy

anything. The tone of her voice was not encouraging; she seemed to have spoken to me *out of a sense of duty*. I looked humbly at the great jars that stood like eastern guards at either side of the dark entrance to the stall and murmured:

No, thank you.

The young lady changed the position of one of the vases and went back to the two young men. They began to talk of the same subject. Once or twice the young lady glanced at me over her shoulder. I **lingered**⁹⁸ before her stall, though *I knew my stay was useless, to make my interest in her wares*⁹⁹ *seem the more real*. Then I turned away slowly and walked down the middle of the bazaar. I allowed the two pennies to fall against the six pence in my

pocket. I heard a voice call from one end of the gallery that the light was out. The upper part of the hall was now completely dark. Gazing up into the darkness I saw myself as a creature **driven and derided by vanity**⁹⁹; and my eyes burned with **anguish**¹⁰⁰ and anger.

THINK TWICE

*An **uninhabited**¹ house of two stories.*

***Uninhabited** (un+in+habit +ed) an uninhabited island: with no people living there. Empty, Vacant, Unpopulated, unpeopled, Unoccupied, Deserted, Abandoned, desolate: The seat next to him was **vacant**. An **empty** house/ building. There was an **abandoned** supermarket trolley in the middle of the road. The office was completely **deserted**.*

*The other houses of the street, **conscious**² (aware, mindful) of **decent**³ (honest people) lives within them, gazed at one another with brown **imperturbable**⁴ (calm) faces.*

*Note: **Conscious**;* She's very **conscious** (aware) of the problems involved. A patient who is not fully **conscious** (have not senses and mental power) should never be left alone. To make a **conscious** (controlled) decision/effort. They have become increasingly environmentally/ health **conscious** (interested). A **conscious** (deliberate) act of cruelty/crime etc.

*The former **tenant**⁵ of our house:* a person who pays rent for the use of a room, building, land, etc. **Tenant** farmers are working in our lands. A number of **tenants** have been *evicted* (dispossessed) for not paying the rent.

The, Abbot by Walter Scott, the Devout Communicant:

Abbot: A man who is the head of an abbey or a monastery. **DEVOUT;** Believing strongly a **devout** Christian/Muslim. *Communicant* A person who attend in communion i.e. The ceremony for last meal of Christ.

A few **straggling** ⁶ bushes: The town **straggled** to an end and the fields began. On the way the kids **straggled** behind us. To grew, spread or move separately in different directions.

*He had been a very **charitable*** ⁷ *priest.*

Charitable: open-handed, Giving, **bountiful, Altruistic, Generous, benevolent.**

*When we met in the street the houses had grown **somber**⁸: Dark, dull, gloomy, and **dismal**.*

*The lamps of the street lifted their **feeble**⁹ (shaky, weak,) lanterns. The cold air **stung**¹⁰ (made us feel a sharp a pain) us and we played till our bodies glowed.*

*We **ran the gauntlet**¹¹ of the wild tribes from the cottages, to the back doors of the dark **dripping**¹² (contains a lot of darkness) gardens where **odors**¹³ arose from the ash pits, to the dark **odorous** stables where a coachman combed the horse or music from the **distorted**¹⁴ harness (leather strips).*

Gauntlet: a metal glove. **Run the gauntlet:** Some of the witnesses had

to *run the gauntlet* of television cameras and reporters: to be criticized or attack.

Odor: Scent, perfume, Aroma, Redolence, Fragrant; for good smelling and Stench, Stink **Reek** to have a strong, unpleasant smell.

Distorted: a fairground mirror that **distorts** your shape. Newspapers are often guilty of **distorting** the truth. A **distortion** of the facts.

We left our shadow and walked up to Mangan's steps reluctantly¹⁵: unwillingly, not keenly.

Her brother always teased¹⁶ her instead of obeying: Mocked, ridiculed, **derided**, make fun of her.

Don't get upset, I was only **teasing** you.

*When we came near the point at which our ways **diverged**¹⁷, I quickened my pace (step) and passed her: **Diverged** apposite of **Converged**; **Deviated**, Move away, against, Met, Come together, joined and congregate, integrate. Both from Latin; Dis: in two ways + Vergere: to turn or incline, against, con: together + Vergere.*

*I had never spoken to her, except for a few **casual**¹⁸ (minor, petty, trivial) words, and yet her name was like a **summons**¹⁹ to all my foolish blood.*

Summons: The police have been unable to **serve a summons on** him.

To obey *a* royal **summons**. She received *a* **summons** to appear in court the following week: An Order, command, **Mandate**, **Edict**, **decree**, **Fiat**: The festival was banned by royal **edict**. The bank had no **mandate** *to honor the cheque*. It was **decreed** that the following day would be a holiday. A presidential/royal **decree**. Prices have been fixed by government **fiat**.

*Her image accompanied*²⁰ (*to go, come, happen, appear and play with*) *me even in places the most hostile*²¹ (*unfriendly, aggressive, antagonistic, on the warpath*) *to romance. Note: Antagonistic; from Greek (Anta: against + Agon: contest, compete, fight+ istic)*

*We walked through the widening streets, **jostled**²² by **drunken**²³ (drunk) men and bargaining women, amid (among) the **curses**²⁴ of laborers, the **shrill**²⁵ **litanies**²⁶ of shop-boys who stood on guard by the barrels.*

Jostle: to **push roughly** against sb in a crowd. The visiting president was **jostled** by angry demonstrators.

Drunken: pissed, pissed as a newt, Wasted, Topsy, under the influence, intoxicated: She was charged with driving **under the influence**. He was arrested for DWI (driving while intoxicated).

Curses: He muttered a **curse/ oath/cuss/ swear/ swearwords** at

the other driver. The family thought that they were **under a curse** (evil harmful words/damn). The **curse** (harm) of *drug addiction*. Noise is a curse of modern city life. He was accused of **blaspheming** (cursing holy things, use foul language) the prophet. How dare you **blaspheme/profane** in front of your own father? Note: blaspheme; Greek; blasphemerein: evil speaking. **Obscene** gestures/language/books phone call etc.

The shrill²⁵ litanies²⁶ of shop-boys:

***Litanies:** a series of boring events, prayers etc.*

Shrill: (make) very high and loud, unpleasant sound or voice: she had a

shrill (piercing) voice. A piercing **shrill/ shriek**. However you can have a **Piercing** look or eyes. The **strident**/sharp/harsh ringing of the phone. The **cacophony** of the traffic in the evening: a mixture of loud unpleasant sounds.

Street-singers, who sang a *come-all-you* (it was a **topical** (current, contemporary) song that began "Come all you **gallant** Irishmen") about O'Donovan (Jeremiah O'Donovan (1831–1915), a popular Irish leader who was jailed by the British for **advocating violent rebellion**.) Rosa, or a **ballad** (folksong) about the troubles in our native land.

Gallant: **gallant** (brave, **Heroic**) soldiers. She made a **gallant** attempt

to hide her tears. He **gallantly** (Heroically) battled *on* alone. I hope people will be **courageous enough** to *speak out* (state their opinions publically) against this injustice.

Advocating violent rebellion:
Advocate: Many experts **advocate** (support) rewarding your child for good behavior. The group does not **advocate** the use of violence: support, defend.

Violent: Her husband was a **violent** man. The crowd suddenly turned **violent**. She doesn't like playing with the **rough** kids. Some patients has suicidal or **murderous/homicidal** tendencies. There was a **violent** reaction from the public. I *took* a **violent** (severe, intense) dislike to him. A violent

(severe, intense) explosion/ change / headache.

Rebellion: Revolt, Uprising, Rising, Resurgence, Upheaval, Disruptions, Mutiny, Revolution, and Agitation: a **resurgence** of interest in the artist's work. The latest **upheavals** in the education system. **Disruptions** to rail services. The strike caused serious **disruptions**. Widespread **agitation** for social reform.

*These noises **converged** ²⁷(come together) in a single **sensation**²⁸ (awareness, perception, consciousness) of life for me.*

Sensation: She seemed to have lost all sensation (feeling) in her arms. A sensation of falling/burning etc. He

had the **eerie** (strange, weird) **sensation** of being watched. News of his arrest caused a **sensation** (public excitement).

*I imagined that I bore my **chalice**²⁹ safely through a **throng**³⁰ of foes³¹.*

*Chalice: A large cup; Goblet, Trophy: He inherited a **poisoned chalice** (first attractive then become unpleasant) when he took over the job as union leader. She's won several **cups/Trophy** for skating. A trophy cabinet in the office. *Actually goblet and chalice is a cup of wine.**

***Throng:** He was met by a **throng** (crowd, rabble) of journalists and photographers. Crowds **thronged** (go in large numbers) the stores. The streets were **thronged** (filled) with*

people. An angry **mob** of demonstrators. A **lynch mob** killed the villain. Football fans turned up (to arrive, find, and happen by chance) in **hordes/swarm**. People are living villages **in droves** to look for work in the cities. There is always a big **crush** in the market. The region attracts tourists in their **multitudes**.

Foe: enemy, competitor, rival, opponent, the opposition, the competition, adversary, and antagonist: The Japanese are our biggest economic **rivals**. His old political **adversary**.

*Her name sprang (suddenly came) to my lips at moments in strange prayers and **praises**³² which I myself did not understand.*

Praise: he wrote poems **in praise** of freedom. His latest movie has **won high praise from** the critics. Feeling jealousy he **damned the act with faint praise** (admired a little). Let's give him a **credit** or trying. Einstein has a widespread **acclaim** for his theory of relativity. I am too intelligent to fall in your **flattery** (insincere praise) and you know that **flattery** get you nowhere. The band enjoy the **adulation** of their fans wherever they go. He deserves a **pat on the back** for all his hard work. He gazed at her with pure **adoration** (great love and worship).

I did not know *whether* I would ever *speak* to her or not, or if I spoke to her, how I could tell her of my **confused**³³ **adoration**³⁴.

Confused: mixed up: People are **confused** about all the different labels on food these days. The children gave a **confused** account of what had happened. He looked **puzzled/ at a loss/bewildered** so I repeated the question. Jimmy was still **dazed** by the blow to his head. She looked somewhat shaken and **bemused/perplexed** by her father death. He gets **muddled** when the teacher starts shouting. She felt shocked and totally **disorientated** by the cacophonous traffic of the city.

Through one of the broken windowpanes/panes I heard the rain impinge³⁵ upon the earth, the fine incessant³⁶ needles of water playing in the sodden³⁷ beds.

Impinge upon/on: Personal problems experienced by students may **impinge** on their work: to have a harmful and forceful Influence on sb/sth: craters made by meteorite **impacts**. The **impact** of the blow knocked Jack off balance.

Incessant: Incessant noise/ rain/ chatter/ meetings: never-stopping, never-ending, constant, endless, **ceaseless**, continuous, **interminable**, **unremitting**. His **ceaseless** questions/rain began to annoy me. An **interminable** speech/wait/discussion.

Sodden: extremely wet. We arrived home completely **sodden**: you're **soaked** through! She **drenched** herself in perfume. We

were caught in the storm and got **drenched/saturated** *to the skin*.

*I pressed the palms of my hands together until they **trembled**³⁸, **murmuring**³⁹: O love! O love! Many times.*

Tremble: Her voice **trembled** with excitement. He opened the letter with **trembling** hands. Leaves **trembling/ quivering** in the breeze. I **trembled** *at the thought of having to make a speech*. To **shiver/tremble** with cold/ excitement/ pleasure, etc. Symptoms of Covid-19 *include* headaches, vomiting and the **shivers**.

Murmuring: speak softly: whispering, muttering, and mumbling: She **mumbled/ murmured/ whispered/ muttered** an apology and left.

*It would be a **splendid**⁴⁰ bazaar, she said; she would love to go.*

Splendid: excellent, great, fine, superb, super, impressive, **marvelous**, wonderful, and **fabulous**: The meal was simply **splendid**. A **fabulous/ brilliant** performance/ invention. It's **marvelous** what modern technology can do. A **fantastic** achievement/ weather, act.

*She could not go, she said, because there would be a **retreat**⁴¹ that week in **convent**⁴²(nunnery, monastery, and abbey).*

Retreat: to move away, back. They **retreated** to a safe distance from the fighting. The flood waters slowly **retreated/receded**. He told them not to **retreat/back off** in the face of

opposition from the public. He **retreated/escaped** into a world of fantasy. The **withdrawal** of the UN troops from the region. He went into *retreat (a quiet place or time to pray or relax)* and tried to resolve the conflicts within himself.

What innumerable⁴³ follies⁴⁴ laid waste⁴⁵ my waking and sleeping thoughts after that evening!

Innumerable: (*in+ number+able*): countless, numerous, immeasurable, infinite.

Folly: Giving up a secure job seems to be the height of **folly**. It would be **folly/stupidity** to *turn* the offer *down*. The police were astonished at the sheer **stupidity/fo**lly of drivers in going so

fast in the fog .It is sheer (pure) **idiocy/folly** to go climbing in this weather: A lack of judgment, silliness, foolishness.

Lay waste: an area **laid waste/ruined** by war: The injured horse had to be **destroyed**. Heat gradually **destroys** vitamin C. The car had skidded across the road and **demolished** part of the wall. A **devastating** explosion/ fire/ cyclone. The human race has enough weapons to **annihilate** itself. The **annihilation** of the whole human race

*I wished to **annihilate** ⁴⁶ the tedious⁴⁷ **intervening**⁴⁸ (coming) days.*

Annihilate: She **annihilated** her opponent, who failed to win a single game: The beauty of the landscape **overwhelmed/overcome** me. The army was **overwhelmed/overpowered** by the rebels. The wave broke through the wall and **overwhelmed/flood** the town.

Tedious: We had to listen to the **tedious /boring/mind numbing** details of his operation. New secretaries came and went with **monotonous/ dull/ repetitious** regularity.

Intervene: Little had changed in the **intervening** (coming/occurring) years. I saw nothing of her during the years that **intervened**. The President **intervened** (became involved)

personally in the crisis. But,' she intervened (interrupted), 'what about the others? Armed/ military/ government **intervention**.

However *intervene* is more in the family of get involved so: interfere, arbitrate, mediate, intrude and interpose: The police are very unwilling to **interfere** in family problems. To **arbitrate** in a dispute. Just a minute, Charles **interposed**. 'How do you know?

I chafed ⁴⁹ *against the work of school:* to feel impatient or annoyed. **Chafe** at/against/under. Some hunters are *chafing under* the new restrictions.

At night in my bedroom and by day in the classroom her image

came between me and the page I **strove**⁵⁰ to read. Strive: try, attempt, struggle, effort and **endeavor**.

The syllables of the word *Araby* *were recalled to me* through the silence in which my soul **luxuriated**⁵¹ *in* it, and *cast* an Eastern **enchantment** ⁵² *over* me.

Luxuriate: He *ran a hot bath* and **luxuriated** (relax and enjoy) *in* it for half an hour.

Enchantment: the **enchantment** of physics. Attraction, charm, magic, allure, delight, fascination, glamour. Forget all you read about the **glamour** of television.

*My aunt was surprised and hoped it was not some **Freemason**⁵³ affair.*

Freemason/ Mason: a member of freemasonry society or group.

*I watched my teacher's face pass from **amiability**⁵⁴ to **sternness**⁵⁵.*

Amiability: friendliness, kindness, affability, geniality.

Sternness: is noun of adjective, *stern:* serious and difficult. The police are planning **sterner measures to combat crime**. A **stern/tough/severe** test of nerves. We face **stern** opposition. Many runners would have given up, but Tim **was made of sterner stuff** (has a strong and determined character). A **strict/stern** teacher/ parent/ disciplinarian/ vegetarian etc. Licenses are only granted under the

most **stringent/harsh** conditions.
There are calls for more
punitive/rigid/firm measures
against people who drink and drive.

*He hoped I was not beginning to
idle⁵⁶.*

Idle: an idle (lazy, **indolent**,)
student/stuff etc. They **idled** the days
away, talking and watching
television.

*I could not bring my **wandering**⁵⁶
thoughts together.*

Wander: It's easy to be distracted
and let your attention **wander/drift**.
She **wandered/roamed** aimlessly
around the streets. The child
wandered/strayed off and got lost.
They **meandered** around the old
town admiring the architecture.

..It stood between me and my **desire**⁵⁷, seemed to me child's play, ugly **monotonous**⁵⁸ child's play.

Desire: a strong wish: She felt an overwhelming **desire** to return home. He had achieved his heart's **desire**. The house had everything you could **desire**. He still **desired** her. The service in the restaurant **left a lot to be desired** (to be bad or unacceptable).

However the family of *desire* comprises (contains) of; wish, want, longing, craving, yearning, temptation, aspiration, compulsion, whim and plea. He has never had any **aspiration** to earn a lot of money. He felt a great **compulsion**/urge to tell her everything. He was forced to *pander* (do) to her every **whim**.

*He was **fussing** ⁵⁹(bothering, in hustle and bustle) at the hallstand, looking for the hat brush, and answered me **curtly**⁶⁰.*

Curt: His tone was **curt** and unfriendly. *Rude* because very few words are used, or because sth is done very quickly: a **curt** nod /reply/note of rejection. She was very **abrupt** with me in our meeting. The doctor spoke in a **brusque** /brask/ tone.

*I left the house in bad **humor**⁶² and walked slowly towards the school.*

Humor: the quality or ability of being funny and amusing. I can't stand people with no sense of humor. They failed to see the **humor** of the situation. a woman of **wit** and

intelligence. He enjoyed exchanging **banter** (joke) with the customers.

*The air was **pitilessly**⁶³ raw (very cold) and already my heart misgave⁶⁴ me.*

Pitiless: showing no pity; cruel: a **pitiless** killer/tyrant. A **brutal** attack/ murder/ rape/ killing. A **ruthless** dictator. The scorching, pitiless/**relentless** sun. The children had no protection against the **tyranny** of their father. A **callous** disregard for the feelings of others. A callous killer/attitude/act.

*..Its ticking began to **irritate**⁶⁵ me, I left the room.*

Irritate: I found her extremely **irritating**. I'm sure she does it just to **annoy** me. Her moods **exasperated/infuriate** him. Nothing

ever seemed to **rile** (annoy and make sb angry) him. What **frustrates** him is that there's too little money to spend on the project. The kids are **getting on my nerve/ wind me up**. It's something that's been **bugging** me a lot recently.

*I **mounted**⁶⁶ the staircase and got the upper part of the house.*

Mount: go up, raise, and increase: She slowly **mounted/ascend** the steps. He **mounted/ascend** the platform and addressed the crowd. To **mount** (arrange) a protest/campaign/an exhibition. The *death toll* continues to **mount**. He **mounted (get on)** his horse/bike and rode away. The diamond is **mounted** (fixed) in gold. Meanwhile, my debts were **mounting up**.

The *high cold empty gloomy* ⁶⁷
rooms: dark, cold and sad: It was a
wet and gloomy day/atmosphere. A
depressing sight/ thought/
experience spent a **miserable**
weekend alone at home. A **bleak**
outlook/ prospect. A **bleak** winter's
day. The overall mood of the meeting
was **downbeat**.

*From the front window I saw my
companions*⁶⁸ *playing below in the
street.*

Companion: he was my
companion (fellow) on the journey.
We became **companions** in
misfortune.

*Their cries reached me faded*⁶⁹ *and
indistinct*⁷⁰ *and, leaning* ⁷¹ *my
forehead against the cool glass, I*

looked over at the dark house where she lived.

Fade: to become or make weaker, ill, paler, disappear: He was wearing **faded** blue jeans. The hopes were **fading away**. All other issues **fade into insignificance** compared with the struggle for survival.

Indistinct: (in;not + dis;apart + stinguere; put out): that cannot be seen, heard or remembered clearly: an **indistinct** figure/ memory in the distance/past. They had only a **vague** idea/impression/recollection (memory) about the conflict. The mountains were **hazy** in the distance. What happened next is all very **hazy**.

Lean: rest, bend on or against: I **leaned** back *in* my chair. A man was

leaning out of the window. She walked slowly, **leaning** on her son's arm. Can I lean my bike *against* the wall? I've **bent over backwards** (made a great effort) to help him. He **leans** (rely on) heavily on his family.

..The brown- dressed figure **cast**⁷² (describe) by my imagination, **touched**⁷³ **discreetly**⁷⁴ by the lamplight...

Cast: He **cast** (describe) himself as the innocent victim of a hate campaign.

He groaned (moaned), **casting** (look) his eyes to the ceiling. The sad news **cast** (make a light or shadow) a shadow over the proceedings (events). They **cast** (throw) anchor at nightfall. He has **cast** her as an

ambitious (determined, motivated)
lawyer in his latest movie.

*She was an old **garrulous**⁷⁵ ...who collected used stamps for some **pious**⁷⁶ purpose.*

Garrulous: talking a lot: He became positively (really, definitely) **garrulous** after a few cups of coffee. You are very **chatty** today, Alex! She was in a **talkative** mood. Evelyn was very **voluble** on the subject of women's rights. He is particularly **loquacious** on the topic of politics. The man was smartly dressed, **verbose/long winded** and seriously agitated (nervous, tense).

Pious: holy, religious. He was a quiet, **pious /devout, spiritual** man. **Pious/virtuous/moral** speeches by

politicians about ‘family values’. All these agreements and ideas remain little more than **pious** (very unlikely to happen) hopes in the present climate.

*I had to **endure**⁷⁷ the **gossip**⁷⁸ of the tea-table. The meal was **prolonged**⁷⁹ beyond an hour and still my uncle did not come.*

Endure: stand, bear: It seemed impossible that anyone could **endure** such pain. He can’t **endure** being apart from me. People **tolerated** corruption for years. She was shouting at him and he just stood there and **took/stand/bear** it. Friendships which **endure** (remain continuous and alive) over many years. I don’t see (understand) how you can **put up with/ live with** the

constant noise. The materials used have to be able to **withstand/resist/stand up to** high temperatures. They had to withstand *siege*, hunger and *deprivation*.

Gossip: Don't believe all the **gossip** you hear. She's been **gossiping** about you. She's a great one for **idle gossip**. A gossipy letter/neighbor: informal talk or stories about other people's private lives that may be unkind or not true

Prolonged: continuing for a long time: lengthy, long, continued, lengthened, extended, elongated, and protracted: a **prolonged** illness/dry weather/ exposure to the sun. In many parts of the country, frosts were severe and **prolonged**. The artificial **prolongation** of human

life. **Protracted**
delays/disputes/negotiations.

At nine o'clock I heard my uncle's
latchkey⁸⁰ *in the hall-door:* a key for
the front or the outer door of a house,
etc. a **latchkey child/kid:** a child
who is at home alone after school
because both parents are at work.

He said he believed in the old
*saying: **All work and no play makes***
Jack a dull boy⁸¹: it is not healthy to
spend all your time working; you
need to relax too.

The Arab to His Favorite Steed
(horse)!! Which was a popular
sentimental⁸² *poem:* Full of
emotions, showing strong emotions:
The ring wasn't worth very much but
it had great **sentimental/** emotional/

romantic value. The spread of nationalist **sentiments** (emotions) after the game. He gets very **maudlin** after a few second of his speech. A **mawkish** poem. She is **soppy** about cats. You have a **passionate** nature. He was **effusive** in his praise. **Slushy** romantic fiction. A **syrupy** romantic novel/Indian film. You never know what to expect with her. She's so **temperamental**.

*When I left the kitchen he was about to **recite**⁸³ the opening lines of the piece to my aunt.*

Recite: say aloud sth you have learned: Each child had to **recite** a poem to the class. They **recited** all their **grievances** (complaints, protests, objections) to me. She could

recite a list of all the kings and queens.

*The sight of the streets **thronged**⁸⁴ (crowded) with buyers and **glaring**⁸⁵ with gas recalled to me the purpose of my journey.*

Glaring: very easily seen: glaring error/ omission/ inconsistency/ injustice. The most glaring example of this problem. There was a Glaring (very bright and unpleasant) white light in the room. Glaring (angry, aggressive) eyes.

However the family members of **glaring** (clear, plain, apparent, and obvious) are: The advertisements were all posted in a **conspicuous** place. Women were **conspicuously** absent. From the planning committee. His nervousness was

manifest/evident to all those present.
Manifestly unfair. A
flagrant/blatant abuse of human
rights. Social divisions in the city are
stark. She has very
pronounced/definite/distinct views
on art.

*I took my seat in a third-class
carriage of a **deserted**⁸⁶ train.*

Deserted: empty, abandoned,
derelict

*After an **intolerable**⁸⁷ **delay**⁸⁸ the
train moved out of the station
slowly.*

Intolerable: painful, unbearable,
insufferable, excruciating, and
unendurable: an **intolerable** burden/
situation/ heat/ behavior. He's been
unbearable/insufferable since he
won that prize. The pain in my back
was **excruciating**.

Delay: We apologize for the **delay** in answering your letter. We can't **delay** (defer) much longer. They decided for **deferral/deferment** of decision for six months. Thousands of commuters were **delayed** (hold up) for over an hour. The game has already been **postponed** (delayed, put off) three times. Riots led to the **postponement** of local elections. These events have led to the **suspension** of talks. The judge granted us a short **adjournment/interval**.

*It crept forward among **ruinous**⁸⁹ houses and over the twinkling (shining, blinking, sparkling) river.*

The buildings were in a **ruinous** state: destroyed or severely damaged.

*I remained alone in the **bare**⁹⁰ (empty) carriage.*

Bare: The fridge/shelves was completely **bare** (empty). He likes to walk around in **bare** feet. The bare branches of winter trees. **Bare** wires were sticking out of the cable. The family *was short of* even the **bare** necessities/ essentials/ minimum of life.

*In a few minutes the train **drew up**⁹¹ beside an **improvised**⁹² (unprepared) wooden platform.*

Draw up if a vehicle draws up, it arrives and stops. The cab **drew up** outside the house.

Improvise: (im + provisus: make preparation for): not rehearsed, unprepared, spontaneous, impromptu, spur of the moment, ad hoc, ad lib, ad libitum: We

improvised (made, invent in the moment) some shelves out of planks of wood and bricks. There isn't much equipment. We're going to have to **improvise** (make, invent in the moment). He **improvised** on the melody. The audience burst into **spontaneous** applause. They often held **impromptu** (unplanned) meetings in their house. The meetings will be held *on an ad hoc basis*. The actors were not perfectly **rehearsed**.

I passed in quickly through a turnstile⁹³, (a turning gate) handing a penny to a weary-looking man.

I found myself in a big hall **girdled**⁹⁴ at half its height by a gallery: A chain of volcanoes **girdles** (/g3:dl/ surrounds) the

Pacific. Carefully tended lawns set in a **girdle** of trees. As a child I was **surrounded** by love and kindness. Police **surrounded** the building. Publicity **surrounding** (strongly connected) the divorce. I like to surround myself with beautiful things. The yard had been **enclosed** with iron railings. Please return the completed form, **enclosing** (along with) a recent photograph. The island is **encircled** by a coral reef. The fog soon **encompassed** the whole valley. Clouds **enveloped** the mountain tops.

*I recognized a silence like that which **pervades**⁹⁵ a church after a service.*

Pervade: spread, fill: a **pervading** mood of fear. The entire house was **pervaded** by a sour smell. The air

was **permeated** with the odor of burning rubber. The company had **saturated** (filled) the market. The room was **suffused** with a soft golden light. Politics **diffuses** all aspects of our lives. The group **encompasses** all ages.

*I walked into the center of the bazaar **timidly**⁹⁶.*

Timid: shy and nervous; not brave: He stopped in the doorway, too **timid/timorous** to go in. He was modest and **diffident/bashful** (shy) about his own success. She gave me a **coy** (shy) smile. She was a little **coy** (reticent, reserved, uncommunicative) about how much her dress cost.

*O, there's a . . . **fib**⁹⁷!* A statement that is not true; a lie about sth that is not important: Stop telling fibs.

Come on, don't **fib**! Where were you really last night?

I **lingered**⁹⁸ before her stall, though *I knew my stay was useless, to make my interest in her **wares**⁹⁹ (products) seem the more real.*

Linger: to continue or stay: She **lingered** for a few minutes to talk to Nick. The civil war **lingered** on well into the 1930s. He **lingered** on for several months after the heart attack. he **remained** in Mexico until June. You **hang around** here in case he comes, and I'll go on ahead. **Stick around**; we'll need you to help us later. He chose to **stay put** while the rest of us toured the area. Teenagers were **loitering** in the street outside.

*Gazing up into the darkness I saw myself as a creature **driven and derided by vanity**⁹⁹; and my eyes burned with **anguish**¹⁰⁰ and anger.*

Drive: make, cause, influence. Hunger **drove** her to steal. This is the main factor **driving** investment in the area.

Deride: His views were **derided** as old-fashioned. To mock, ridicule, scoff, and put down: You can **mock**, but at least I'm willing to have a try! To **hold sb up to ridicule/mockery**. Students **ridiculed/ made fun of/put down** him in school days. He **scoffed** at our amateurish attempts. It was **deriding/sardonic** smile

Vanity: pride, self-importance, arrogance, egotism, bigheadedness: The invitation *to head* (to lead) the committee *flattered* (privileged,

pleased) his **vanity** and he agreed. He has a reputation for rudeness and intellectual **arrogance**.

Anguish: severe pain, mental suffering or unhappiness: Tears of **anguish** filled her eyes. An **anguished** letter from her prison cell. It was **agony/distress/misery** not knowing where the children were. She suffered years of mental **torment/torture** after her son's death. He was **tormented/plagued** by feelings of insecurity.

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